



QCWA Journal

Quarter Century Wireless Association - Founded in 1947

Published Quarterly • \$5.00 • WINTER 2004 • Vol. LIII No. 4



Quarter Century Wirelsss Association
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QCWA Journal

Winter 2004/Vol. LIII No. 4

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QCWA National Nets

SSB - Sunday at 2000Z on 14347
CW - Wednesdays at
2000E on 7035

QCWA JOURNAL is published four times a year (quarterly) by the Quarter Century Wireless Association, Inc. Membership in QCWA, including a subscription to the Journal, is available to individuals who qualify in the United States and its possessions at the following rates: \$20 for one year; \$35 for two years; \$50 for three years; and \$300 for life. For Canadian & foreign membership rates, please contact the business office.

POSTMASTER: Please send change of address to QCWA, Inc., P.O. Box 3247, Framingham, MA 01705-3247.
Printed in USA and mailed Third Class from Melbourne, FL; Framingham, MA and other locations.

Contents of this Journal are ©2004 QCWA (Quarter Century Wireless Association)

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This month's cover

On the front is a photo of the newly elected Board of Directors. Seated, L to R: Alan Pickering, Secretary; Bob Roske, Vice President; John Johnston, President; Frank Harris, Treasurer. Standing, L to R: Tom Atkins, Director; Len Nathanson, Director; Croft Taylor, Past President; Blanche Randles, Director; Ed Yoder, Director; Lew Gordon, Director; Harold Chase, Director. Directors missing due to health reasons were Ray Minichiello and Jerrel Jones.

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Past Presidents

John DiBlasi, W2FX (SK)

1947 - 1964

Earl R. Thomas, W2MM (SK)

1965 - 1968

Clarence Seid, W2KW (SK)

1969 - 1971

Barry Goldwater, K7UGA (SK)

1972 - 1973

Frank A. Gunther, W2ALS (SK)

1974 - 1977

Harry S. Gartsman, W6ATC

1978 - 1981

Stuart Meyer, W2GHK (SK)

1982 - 1985

Leland Smith, W5KL (SK)

1986 - 1989

Harry Dannals, W2HD

1989 - 1994

Lew McCoy, W1ICP (SK)

1994 - 1996

John Kelleher, W4ZC (SK)

1996 - 1998

Gary R. Harrison, K0BC

1998 - 2002

Croft Taylor, VE3CT

2002 - 2004

Executive Secretary/ General Manager

Ralph Barber, W2ZM (SK)

1955 - 1964

Gus Gironda, W2JE (SK)

1965 - 1973

Ethel Smith, K4LMB (SK)

1974 - 1976

Ted Heithecker, W5EJ (SK)

1976 - 1991

Jim Walsh, W7LVN (SK)

1991 - 2003

The QCWA Journal

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John Johnston, W3BE



The Quarter Century Wireless Association

The Quarter Century Wireless Association, Inc. was founded December 5, 1947, as a non-commercial association of radio amateurs organized for the promotion of interest in Amateur Radio communication and experimentation, for the establishment and advancement of the radio art and of the public welfare.

QCWA is an incorporated association without capital stock chartered under the laws of the State of New York, and is a tax exempt 501(C)3 organization under the Internal Revenue Code of 1986.

Its affairs are governed by a President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer and a Board of Directors, whose voting members are elected every two years by the general membership.

In order to qualify for membership in QCWA one must have demonstrable proof of having been first licensed as an Amateur Radio operator at least 25 years prior to application for membership and must be currently licensed. Membership inquiries and general correspondence should be addressed to the business office at P.O. Box 3247, Framingham, MA 01705-3247 U.S.A. Telephone: 508-405-1930 FAX: 508-405-1965



Seasons greetings! It's that time of year for your Chapter to be busy at making its plans for the year 2005. Whether your Chapter meets weekly, monthly, quarterly or annually, you will enjoy good programs more consistently when you have an overall plan in mind from the start. A good, realistic plan is a helpful framework around which you can make arrangements for obtaining interesting speakers and demonstrations. Last minute arrangements seem to invite unwanted difficulties. Be sure to take photographs of your events. Include the best one with your Chapter Reports for our QCWA JOURNAL. Those handy digital cameras are perfect for taking lots of shots and culling out all but the best one for us to view. Send it to our GM, Chuck Walbridge, at qcwagm@rcn.com along with accompanying text of 300 or so words.

First off, select the date for your official Annual Meeting. January - being the first meeting of the New Year - is ideal. This is probably when most of our new officers assume their duties. Next, there are some important dates to avoid: Blackout August 21 to 28. That's when you will be on our magnificent Alaskan convention cruise hosted by our Southwest Wisconsin Chapter #162. The great Dayton Hamvention will be held on May 20, 21 and 22. We want to see all of you there at our QCWA booth and at our QCWA dinner hosted by our Southwest Ohio Chapter #9.

How about a Chapter picnic? A Holiday Party is another sure-fire event. An Awards Banquet will give your members and those close to them an opportunity to dress up and commemorate your valued service to amateur radio. Field trips can add variety to your Chapter activities. Museums and other places of interest will often provide an informative guide or docent to conduct a tour for your group. In particular, our QCWA members seem to have a passion for viewing antique automobiles, railcars, aircraft and racks of electronic apparatus. For some great ideas, look at what other Chapters are doing as reported under our Chapter Reports in this and previous editions of our QCWA JOURNAL.

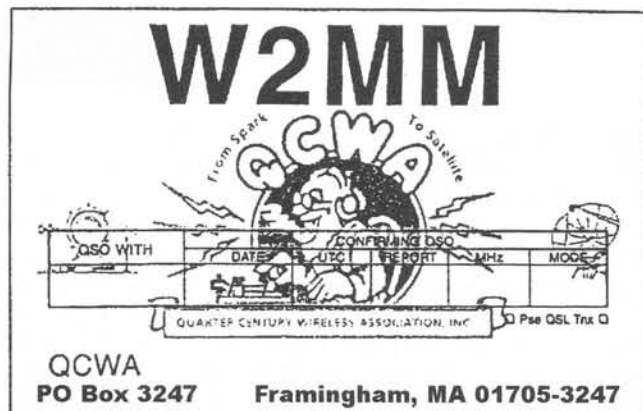
Unless your Chapter has established a solid reputation for always turning out an appreciative and responsive audience, obtaining interesting speakers for regular meetings will probably be your biggest challenge. It seems that when you get that ball rolling in the right direction, good speakers will seek you out. Otherwise, you will have to prime the pump to get it working. You might start things off by asking your members to speak on a topic of their choice. Every one of our members has some interesting stories to tell. After you have gained the confidence of your Chapter members for making attendance at your meetings worth the expenditure of their time, you can invite speakers from the outside. Make certain that your members know well in advance about every forthcoming program.

Add to your schedule one or more hamfests for flying our QCWA banner. Our web page at <http://www.qcwa.org> has the details on how to go about doing this more effectively. Many hamfest sponsors will provide a table gratis for one of our Chapters. This makes for a great rallying point for our members and prospective members. It is our best opportunity to explain to the remainder of our amateur service community just what our association is all about. You can invite those first licensed at least 25-years ago to become a part of our Association. You can explain to them that our QCWA is a celebration by fellow hams who understand their valuable contribution to our fabulous hobby. It is a lot of fun and we do good work. Let them know that they will become friends with interesting hams who understand and appreciate what amateur radio has accomplished.

Be sure to inform our Webmaster, Bob Roske, N0UF, of your meeting schedule and locations. The listing of our Chapter events is invaluable while planning a trip. It makes it possible to work into your itinerary a visit to as many of our Chapters as possible. Visiting with old friends and making new ones can be the highlight of your next journey. QCWA is a lot of fun. You help make it that way.

W3BE

Order Your Official QCWA QSL Cards Today!



QCWA QSL cards are USA standard size, printed on a heavy stock which is 'coated' (shiny) on the logo side. Ink is a bright blue with light gray QCWA logo, and you may have your call in either solid letters (above) or shadowed (right). **Be certain you specify the letter style when you order.**

W2MM

If you want your county printed, please indicate so on the order blank. Also, tell us whether you want your state spelled out in full or printed with the standard postal abbreviation. Prices listed below include shipping.

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☐ 10 - 10 # _____ ☐ Grid Sq. _____
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Note that you may order it with a pocket clip at an additional cost

Bola ties are also available.

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Last Name _____

Indicate whether you want your City/State or your Chapter name and Number as bottom line on badge.

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OR

2. Chapter Name and Number

Badge..... \$7.00

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Bola Ties (\$2.50).....

Bola tie color(circle one): Black, Blue, Brown, Green, Red and White.

Total Cost.....

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GENERAL MANAGER'S Report

Chuck Walbridge, K1IGD



John Johnston, W3BE, being presented with his 50-year Anniversary Award by General Manager Chuck Walbridge, K1IGD.

Winter 2004

With this issue of the Journal, we get back to our normal publishing schedule. We have been able to continue the George Hart series, thanks to Gerry's daughter who forwarded a package of papers to headquarters. Material from several other authors is included in this issue. Thanks to all of you for bearing with us as we recover from the problems of the past several months. Any member having ham radio experiences they would like to pass along, please forward them to me. We can always use stories of either a technical nature or stories based on personal experiences.

Just a reminder to chapter secretaries that the next deadline for chapter reports is January 1, 2005 for the Spring issue. Because of the changes that have occurred, the deadline for inputs for this issue were relaxed to accommodate as many reports as possible. In order to meet our printing and mailing schedule, the input dates are very important. Please do your best to submit your reports on time.

I enjoyed attending the 2004 Convention in Ottawa, Canada in October. The Canadians were, as always, very gracious hosts. In addition to a great banquet and interesting speaker, the technical sessions were well planned and well attended. It was a pleasure to meet and speak with many Canadian and US members.

During the Board meeting, your Officers and Directors took action in a number of areas on how the National Organization can support the various chapters scattered around the country and the world. These actions are focused on recruiting new members, retaining our current members and suggestions on how to improve programs presented at chapter meetings. The members of the Standing Committees are published in this issue. There is an officer/director/member who can answer your concerns and questions.

Wishing all of you a Happy Holiday Season and a prosperous New Year!

K1IGD

ATTENTION:

The Minutes for the 2004 Board meeting held in Ottawa Canada in October are posted in the QCWA web page. They are available for all to read."

The Foundation for Amateur Radio, Inc.

QCWA Scholarship Winners

QCWA Named Scholarships - \$1500.00 each

Ralph Hasslinger (W2CVF) Charter Member Scholarship

Kathy E. Hufford, KF4CJR — Woodbridge, VA

Donald & Phyllis Doughty Family Scholarship

Andrew F. Schaefer, KB2ZWZ — Binghamton, NY

Jacobson-Kelleher Memorial Scholarship

Martin C. Worster, KD5LJT — Harrison, AR

QCWA Named Memorial Scholarships - \$1000.00 each

Travis Baird (W9QVD) Memorial Scholarship

Sara K. Hanna, KE6MWX — Willits, CA

Leo Meyerson (W0GFQ) Family Living Scholarship

Christina E. Kulp, KG4KXJ — Middletown, VA

Edwin Woodruff (W3SX) Memorial Scholarship

Thomas R. Leach, KC2CIK — Tonawanda, NY

QCWA Silent Key Memorial Scholarships - \$1000.00 each

Alexander S. Bauer, KC2GFA — Baldwinsville, NY

Holly A. Birmingham, KB2ZMM — Ridgewood, NJ

Matthew J. Dean, KE4UKY — Charlottesville, VA

Michael J. Dean, KE4UKX — Charlottesville, VA

Benjamin Jack, N3VYA — Huntington Valley, PA

Robert C. Mate Jr., KB8VXJ — No. Olmstead, OH

Dean R. Parmiter, KC8IHT — Roseville, OH

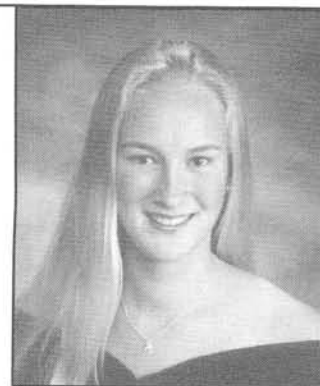
Stephen M. Sciarini, KC8IDJ — Dover, OH

Luke Zimmerman, W5LMB — Austin, TX

Ralph Hasslinger (W2CVF) Charter Member Scholarship

• *Kathy E. Hufford, KF4CJR — Woodbridge, VA*

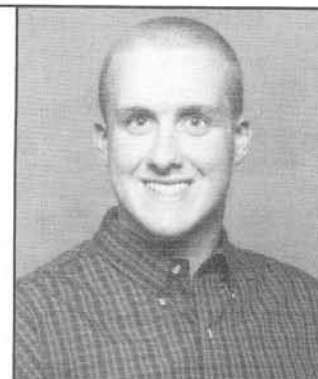
Kathy is a rising senior at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology majoring in Chemical Engineering with a minor in Biomedical Engineering. After graduation she plans to pursue a Master's degree in either Bioengineering or Forensic Science, or work with research and development in the pharmaceutical industry. This year she upgraded to an Extra Class License. She continues to participate in amateur radio by volunteering at race events, attending Field Day events, and introducing other college students to the hobby.



Donald & Phyllis Doughty Family Scholarship

• *Andrew F. Schaefer, KB2ZWZ — Binghamton, NY*

This Fall Andrew will be beginning his Junior year as an electrical Engineering Student at Cornell University in Ithaca, New York with a specialization in the field of Telecommunications. He is currently serving as the secretary of the Cornell Amateur Radio Club, W2CXM. During his second year as a member of W2CXM, he participated in the November Sweepstakes and in Foxhunts. Each year he also enjoys participating in Field Days. Amateur Radio has significantly enriched his college experience at Cornell University. Andrew is the son of Andrew (W3SW) and Karen Schaefer of Binghamton, NY.



Jacobson-Kelleher Memorial Scholarship

• *Martin C. Worster, KD5LJT — Harrison, AR*

Martin has been attending The College of the Ozarks in Point Lookout, MO since the Fall of 2003. He is a senior majoring in Biological Sciences. He and his entire family of six are all licensed amateur radio operators. Martin has been a member of the ARRL since 2000 and a VE since 2002. He is a member of the North Arkansas Amateur Radio Society and has been a member of the Amateur Radio Club of the Ozarks. He has attended Field Days and contest stations. He enjoys collecting QSL cards and has "unofficially" worked all states. Martin has been the recipient of many ham radio scholarships and plans on contributing back to the hobby once he graduates.



Travis Baird (W9QVD) Memorial Scholarship

• *Sara K. Hanna, KE6MWX — Willits, CA*

Sara Hanna is a senior at University of California, San Diego, where her major is Environmental Systems with a minor in Sociology. This past quarter she earned "Provost Honors" at UCSD. In addition to her studies, she is currently doing an internship in the environmental field. She is a member of the Willits Amateur Radio Society. She holds a Technician License and participates in the club activities when she is not away at school.





Leo Meyerson (W0GFQ) Family Living Scholarship

• *Christina E. Kulp, KG4KXJ — Middletown, VA*

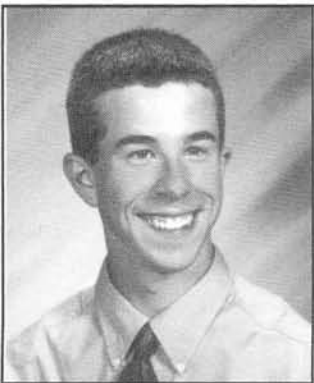
Christina has completed her first year at Goshen College in Goshen, Indiana, and is using her scholarship to attend that same school as a Social Work major this year. Although her course load is mainly filled with classes pertaining to her major and minor (Spanish), she has still made time to be a part of the world choir, work two jobs, and of course, take a radio class. Her parents and her father's parents are all hams, so becoming a ham was practically genetically predetermined. Her father (K3SW), was especially inspiring to her, encouraging her to obtain her license years before she actually did, at age 14. Now, along with reading, writing, and singing ham radio is one of many hobbies she enjoys. Her QCWA sponsor was Gerald Brunk (K4RBZ).

Thomas R. Leach
Photo unavailable

Edwin Woodruff (W3SX) Memorial Scholarship

• *Thomas R. Leach, KC2CIK — Tonawanda, NY*

Thomas is currently attending the State University of New York at Buffalo as a sophomore on the Undergraduate and Engineering Deans List, working toward a degree in Aerospace and Mechanical Engineering. Thomas first became a licensed radio operator in 1997 as a No Code Tech. He upgraded to Tech Plus in 1999 and upgraded to General in August 2003. He belongs to one of the local amateur radio clubs, RAWNY (Radio Association of Western New York). He operates their club station on Field Day and Museum Ships on the Air from the USS Little Rock and the USS Crocker in Buffalo, NY. He enjoys using radio to stay in contact with his father (AA2FZ), mother (N2IYQ), and sister (KC2HPT).



QCWA General Scholarship

• *Alexander S. Bauer, KC2GFA — Baldwinsville, NY*

Alexander will be a Freshman this Fall at Clarkson University majoring in Aeronautical Engineering this fall. He also volunteers actively with his church, being a member of the Lutheran Youth Organization (LYO). In the field of Amateur radio he received his novice license when he was 13. He is a member of the ARRL, the National Association for Amateur Radio, and the Radio Amateurs of Greater Syracuse (RAGS), W2AE.



QCWA General Scholarship

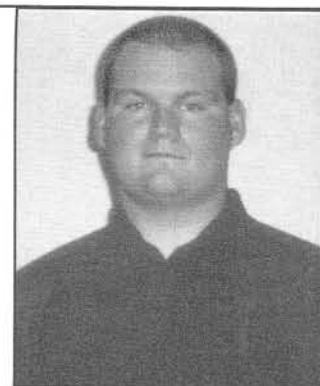
• *Holly A. Birmingham, KB2ZMM — Ridgewood, NJ*

Holly, KB2ZMM is enrolled in Bergen Community College in New Jersey this Fall. She will be studying Vocal Performance. Holly has been involved with Amateur Radio a good portion of her life, having received her license at age nine. She is a people person, and ham radio is a great outlet for her to use her social talent. Her favorite part of Amateur Radio is Field Day because of the friendships that are made along the way. Holly comes from a "ham family". Her mother, Joyce Birmingham is KA2ANF, her sister, Krista Birmingham is KB2MER, her Father was Andy Birmingham, WB2RQX (silent key in 1999), and her uncle, Dale Birmingham is KF8FM.

QCWA General Scholarship

• *Matthew J. Dean, KE4UKY — Charlottesville, VA*

Matthew is currently a junior at the University of Virginia's College at Wise. He is majoring in accounting with a minor in business administration. He received his Novice Class license in January of 1995 when he was ten years old. By 13 he had upgraded to Extra Class. Field Day is one of his favorite amateur activities. He has stayed up all night at the Field Day site making CW contacts. He also enjoys DXing, contacting special events and kit building.



QCWA General Scholarship

• *Michael J. Dean, KE4UKX — Charlottesville, VA*

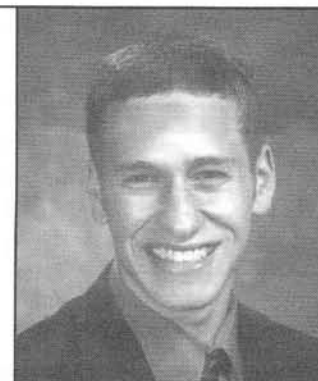
Mike Dean is currently a Junior at the University of Virginia's College at Wise, and he is majoring in economics. He received his Novice License in January of 1995 when he was ten years old. He upgraded to each license class until he made it to Extra in May of 1998 when he was thirteen years old. He especially enjoys DXing on 20 meters. He also enjoys operating in radio contests, usually November Sweepstakes and Field Day. He also likes to work special event stations.



QCWA General Scholarship

• *Benjamin Jack, N3VYA — Huntington Valley, PA*

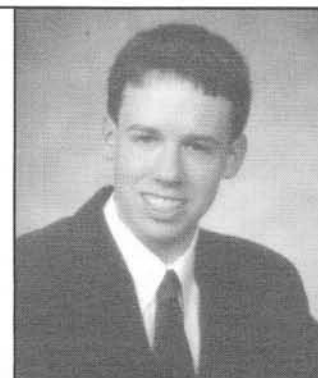
Benjamin will be entering his second year at Columbia University this Fall as a student of the Fu Foundation School of Engineering and Applied Science. He plans to major in Electrical Engineering. In 1995, at the age of ten, Benjamin passed his Technician VE exam on the very first try. In fifth grade, when he was only eleven years old he started a ham radio club at his school. The club became so popular that he applied for a club call sign. Days before his fifteenth birthday he passed the 13 WPM code test as well as the general written test and made the upgrade to General Class. For him the most enjoyable part of amateur radio is the opportunity to converse with many different types of people from around the globe.



QCWA General Scholarship

• *Robert C. Mate Jr., KB8VXJ — No. Olmstead, OH*

Robert is double majoring in Political Science and English at Marquette University. After graduation he hopes to pursue a career with an agency in the federal government. Robert was exposed to amateur radio at an early age by his father, Robert Mate, Sr., AA8BV. He received his first amateur radio license in 1994 and has been operating ever since. His primary ham radio interests include operating contests, such as Field Day. He has operated with groups such as the North Coast Contest Club and as a guest of the NASA Glenn Amateur Radio Club.



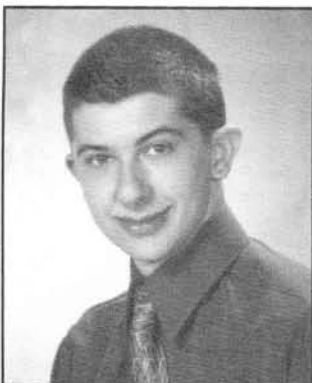
Scholarship Winners



QCWA General Scholarship

• *Dean R. Parmiter, KC8IHT — Roseville, OH*

Dean Parmiter, better known as KC8IHT on the waves, will be attending Bucknell University, majoring in Civil Engineering. Amateur radio has opened him up to a new way of communication. He has participated in the local 2 meters ARES net, installed 2 meter radio antennas at Muskingum County and Zanesville City Fire Departments, worked to maintain the Zanesville Amateur Radio Club repeater site, and helped install the emergency alert system at the Muskingum County Sheriff's Department.



QCWA General Scholarship

• *Stephen M. Sciarini, KC8IDJ — Dover, OH*

In the Fall of 2004 Stephen Sciarini started his first semester at the University of Akron, Ohio majoring in Electrical Engineering. At age eleven he passed the Technician Class Amateur Radio License and has since upgraded to an Extra Class License. In January 2004, he received certification through Amateur Radio Relay League to administer amateur radio examinations. Field Day and Fox Hunts are two of his favorite radio activities.



QCWA General Scholarship

• *Luke Zimmerman, W5LMB — Austin, TX*

Luke will begin his sophomore year at The Ohio State University where he is pursuing degrees in Political Science and Economics. He holds a Technician no-code license and follows in the footsteps of his father and uncle who are both licensed operators. Luke hopes to turn his experiences in school into a career in politics, a perfect platform he feels for both serving his community and educating the public on the importance of amateur radio operation, particularly in this post 9/11 world. His QCWA sponsor was Hal Henegar, W5MDL #11332.

Editors note: Due to space requirements some of the biographies were condensed.

Memorial Scholarship Fund

NAME	HONORING
ROBERT ROSKE	W7LVN
CHAPTER 41	W7LVN
CHAPTER 183	W1ALL
SUE ANN PRITCHARD	W7LVN
QCWA BOD	W7LVN
CHAPTER 70	CHAPTER 70 SILENT KEYS
CHAPTER 70	VE3GK
CHAPTER 134	CHAPTER 134 SILENT KEYS
RALPH HASSLINGER	W7LVN
JOHN HUNTOON	W7LVN
CHAPTER 21	W8TPS
CHAPTER 79	W0HWP
CHUCK & JAN WALBRIDGE	W7LVN

New Members

Winter 2004

Date	Mem. #	Name	Call	City	ST/PR	SPONSOR	SCALL
9/3/04	32709	DEMING, MICHAEL	K6GT	SAN LUIS OBISPO	CA	-	-
9/3/04	32710	KESTELOOT, ANDRE	N4ICK	MC LEAN	VA	William Scholtz	W3HXF
9/3/04	32711	LYONS, THOMAS W	WD5FPH	SAN ANTONIO	TX	Clay Laster	W5ZPV
9/3/04	32712	RADCLIFF, JOSEPH A	WD8EOG	GRAFTON	WV	Robert L West Jr	WA8YCD
9/3/04	32713	SKIDMORE, WENDELL	WD8EOM	WESTON	WV	Art Ellis	W8PBO
9/3/04	32714	TALAGO, STAN	W8PRM	FLEMINGTON	WV	David Mays	W8UI
9/3/04	32715	TALAGO, JUDITH A	K8AVP	FLEMINGTON	WV	David Mays	W8UI
9/7/04	32716	ROUBIE, JOHN M	K2JDD	EAST SYRACUSE	NY	-	-
9/7/04	32717	DLUEHOSH, PAUL H	N4PD	LEESBURG	VA	John B Johnston	W3BE
9/21/04	32718	BACH, MELVIN A III	N3EHY	ALBRIGHTSVILLE	PA	-	-
9/7/04	32719	HAIR, CHARLES AUBREY	K5TKY	MC KINNEY	TX	-	-
9/7/04	32720	BENEDICT, MIKE	W0DDD	GRAND MOUND	IA	-	-
9/7/04	32721	HAYES, KENNETH M	W1KMH	PITTSFIELD	VT	-	-
9/8/04	32722	ARROWOOD, RONALD W	AB4RA	BOSTIC	NC	-	-
9/13/04	32723	SYKES, MARK A	KD8RG	HUBER HEIGHTS	OH	-	-
9/13/04	32724	BURLESON, JOHN R	KA8ARF	DAVISON	MI	Peter E Hansen	W8TWA
9/17/04	32725	MOCK, DAVID J	KC7HS	FLORENCE	OR	-	-
9/21/04	32726	GAYNARD, JOHN C	K8WDN	LONDON	OH	-	-
9/20/04	32727	DONOVAN, TIMOTHY G	WA4CLK	FAIRFAX	VA	John B Johnston	W3BE
9/20/04	32728	CHITWOOD, JOHN	K3RGB	JESSUP	MD	John B Johnston	W3BE
9/20/04	32729	JONES, BILLY W	KA5GNM	TISHOMINGO	MS	-	-
9/20/04	32730	KREHER, WILLIAM H	N4DCC	FALLS CHURCH	VA	-	-
9/21/04	32731	ROBERTSON, JOHN S	WJ4SR	EATONTON	GA	-	-
9/21/04	32732	O'DELL, JOHNNY	3XY8B	DULLES	VA	-	-
9/23/04	32733	TEEPL, JAMES L	N8DOD	WARREN	OH	-	-
9/24/04	32734	FENNACY, PATRICK	W6YEP	FRESNO	CA	-	-
9/24/04	32735	PFAFF, KARL R	K8QB	WILLARD	OH	-	-
9/28/04	32736	MC KENZIE, ELLEN E	WB0VML	COLUMBIA	MO	Wayland McKenzie Jr.	K4CHS
9/30/04	32737	BAILEY, SHERIDAN "RAY"	N4GYN	COLUMBIA	MD	-	-



The Rules Say...

Q&A

John B. Johnston, W3BE, 17701 Bowie Mill Road, Derwood, MD 20855-1608

Who, Me?

Q. Our Chapter just named me as its club station license trustee. What do I do now?

A. Your first chore is to have your name and address shown on the FCC Universal Licensing System ("ULS") consolidated licensee database for your club station. Download form CSCSA 1-01 or NVEC Form 605. Use it to apply for this administrative update to your club station license grant. File it with one of our three Club Station Call Sign Administrators listed on the form.

Q. What are my responsibilities?

A. Section 97.103(a) says it is the club station licensee who is responsible for the proper operation of your club station in accordance with our FCC Rules. The applicable rules are in Title 47, United States Code of Federal Regulations Parts 0, 1, 17 and 97.

W3BE-O-GRAM: Have at least the current version of Part 97 on hand in your club station. You can download it from our Government Printing Office website at http://www.access.gpo.gov/nara/cfr/waisidx_02/47cfr97_02.html.

Confirm that your club station license grant shown on the ULS consolidated license database has your correct name and mailing address in the United States. See Section 97.23.

Section 97.5 (a) says that you must maintain physical control of your club station. At all times, you must control access to, and the use of, your club station's transmitting apparatus.

Section 97.109(a) says that you must provide at least one control point for your club station. If your club station is going to operate under the telecommand provisions in Section 97.213, you must protect it against making, willfully or negligently, unauthorized transmissions.

Section 97.213(a) says that you must provide a radio or wire line control link between your club station and its control point when it is under telecommand. Incorporate provisions to limit transmissions to three minutes should your control link fail. Post at the station a copy of your station license and a label with information on how you and your station control operators can be reached.

Section 97.5(a) requires you to select the location for your club station. It is authorized to transmit from practically anywhere the FCC regulates communications. You do not have to own or lease the property where your club station is located.

If you locate your club station within one mile of an FCC monitoring facility, Section 97.13(b) says that you must protect that facility from harmful interference. Section 0.121(c) gives the specific geographical coordinates for each FCC monitoring facility: Allegan, MI; Anchorage, AK; Belfast, ME; Canandaigua, NY; Douglas, AZ; Ferndale, WA; Grand Island, NE; Kingsville, TX; Laurel, MD; Livermore, CA; Powder Springs, GA; Sabina Seca, PR; Santa Isabel, PR; Vero Beach, FL; and Waipahu, HI.

Section 97.15 says that owners of antenna structures more than 200 feet above ground level at the site or located near a public use airport must notify the FAA and register with the FCC. Follow the notification and registration procedures specified in Part 17 when your antenna structure is located near a heliport or public use airport.

Section 17.7(b) describes an imaginary surface above which notification and registration are required. It extends outward and upward at one of the following slopes:

For a heliport, the slope is 25:1 for a horizontal distance of 5,000 feet from the nearest landing and takeoff area.

For a small airport (longest runway length no more than 3,200 feet), the slope is 50 to 1 for a horizontal distance of 10,000 feet from the nearest point on the nearest runway.

For a large airport (any runway length more than 3,200 feet), the slope is 100 to 1 for a horizontal distance of 20,000 feet from the nearest point on the nearest runway.

Section 97.11(a) says that the installation and operation of your club station on a ship or aircraft must obtain approval from the master of the ship or pilot in command of the aircraft on which you intend to install your station. Make certain that your club station complies with the interference requirements in §97.11(b) and the hazard provisions in §97.11(c).

Determine the PEP input to your antenna for each frequency band where your club station will transmit. Where the PEP exceeds that listed in §97.13(c)(1), reduce it to that level or perform the routine RF environmental evaluation prescribed by §1.1307(b). Take action to prevent the radiated fields from exceeding the limits for exposure to humans.

W3BE-O-GRAM: Configure and operate your club station depending upon your interests, your resources, your ingenuity and your good judgment. There are no "how to" requirements in the rules nor does the FCC pre-approve systems in our amateur service.

Section §97.103(c) says that you must make your club station and its records available for inspection by a FCC representative.

W3BE-O-GRAM: Include in your records a copy of your club station license grant as shown on the FCC ULS consolidated license database, a copy of your control operators' operator/primary station license grants, your RF environmental determinations and evaluations, such records as may be required by an FCC representative and other documents relating to your station's operation.

Section 97.103(b) says that you must designate your club station control operators. Section 97.7 says that your club station's control operator must be a person: (a) For whom an amateur operator/primary station license grant appears on the ULS consolidated licensee database, or (b) who is authorized, under Section 97.107, for alien reciprocal operation.

W3BE-O-GRAM: Do not designate any person as your Chapter's club station control operator until you are confident that an amateur operator/primary station license grant appears currently on the ULS consolidated licensee database, or who is authorized properly for alien reciprocal operation. Do not rely on the FCC license document Form 660.

In the case of the person being an amateur operator authorized for alien operation by Section 97.107, you will have to rely upon the license document presented to you. It will probably be written in a foreign language. You should also confirm that the foreign country is listed on the Reciprocal Operating Arrangements announcement. You can reach it quickly via search at <http://www.fcc.gov/>.

The FCC presumes that it is you – the station licensee – who is also the club station control operator, unless there is documentation to the contrary in your station records. When the control operator is a different amateur operator than the club station licensee, both persons are equally responsible for proper operation of the station.

There are differences in the penalties for violating our rules for the station licensee and for the control operator. Section 97.509(e), for example, speaks of revocation of the station license grant and the suspension of the operator license grant.

Q. There are about 100 club station license grants on the ULS that show no trustee or a trustee whose license has expired. Some even list the club itself as the trustee. What gives?

A. Yes, that is so. It should not be. Thus discrepancy has been called to the attention of the FCC and corrections can be expected.

Q. From which places does our club station license grant allow it to transmit?

A. Section 97.5 (a) authorizes a club station named in a grant on the FCC ULS consolidated license database to transmit from:

1. Within 50 km of the Earth's surface and at a place where the FCC regulates the amateur service;
2. Within 50 km of the Earth's surface and aboard any vessel or craft that is documented or registered in the United States;
3. More than 50 km above the Earth's surface aboard any craft that is documented or registered in the United States.

Q. My Elmer passed away last month and his family would like to keep his 1X3 call sign. How can one of the hams in his family obtain his call sign?

A. From the information that you provided, it appears there is a good chance that the spouse, child, grandchild, stepchild, parent, grandparent, stepparent, brother, sister, stepbrother, stepsister, aunt, uncle, niece, nephew, or in-law could obtain the former call sign of the deceased under our vanity call sign system in Section 97.19(c)(3). A 1X3 call sign is in Group C. Any class of operator license, except Novice, is eligible to request a Group C call sign.

Section 97.19(c)(3) provides a two-year window during which the relative can request the former station call sign of the deceased.

W3BE-O-Gram: During this window, the call sign can also be requested by a close relative of another deceased person who held the call sign before your Elmer as well as by a club under our in memoriam provision. After that, the call sign becomes available under our first-come-first-served provision. Unless the close relative is absolutely certain, therefore, that no one else will apply for the call sign during our two-year window, he or she should apply as soon as possible so as to be the earliest requester.

The close relative might shorten the time period it takes for the SK's license grant to be removed from our

FCC licensee database. For this, prepare an envelope containing his or her signed request for cancellation of the deceased's license grant due to the death of the grantee. Include a copy of the deceased's license document and a copy of the death certificate or an obituary notice from the newspaper showing the date of death. Mail the package to the Federal Communications Commission, ATTN: Becky Williams, 1270 Fairfield Road, Gettysburg, PA 17325.

As soon as the close relative confirms that the license status has been changed to "canceled" on our FCC licensee database, file the application for the vanity call sign. It will not be held for anyone. See Amateur Station Sequential Call Sign System <http://www.fcc.gov/wtb/amateur/amatur.html>.

RULE MAKING

The number of petitions calling for action in the wake of the demise of the international requirement for CW skill continues to grow: RM-10781; RM-10782; RM-10783; RM-10784; RM-10785; RM-10786; RM-10787; RM-10805; RM-10806; RM-10807; RM-10808; RM-10809; RM-10810; RM-10811.

W3BE-O-GRAM: Now is the time for you to become familiar with these issues in preparation for responding to a probable call for our comments from the FCC, maybe even this year. Discuss them with your ham friends and form your own opinions. Let our QCWA External Relations Standing Committee know of your opinion.

APPRECIATION

Our R&R Superham-of-the-Month is our fabulous QCWA General Manager, Chuck Walbridge, K1IGD (photo). Chuck and XYL Janet have our cozy Headquarters office up to speed.

Our collection of CallBook Magazines is complete except for the 1975 issue. If you can contribute a copy of this issue, it would be a big help. Send it to Chuck at our QCWA Business Office, P.O. Box 3247, Framingham, MA 01705-3247. If you would like for Chuck to look up a call sign listing for you, his e-mail address is: qcwagm@rcn.com.

Chuck, thank you for all of the fine work that you have done for amateur radio. You are at the very top of the list of those fascinating people who make this wonderful hobby happen. ■



Super-ham-of-the-Month, QCWA G.M., Chuck Walbridge K1IGD

Send your questions by e-mail to john@johnston.net.

What's The Value of One Member?

Ten little members standing in a line,
One disliked the president, then there were nine.

Nine ambitious members offered to work late,
One forgot his promise, then there were eight.

Eight creative members had ideas good as heaven.
One lost enthusiasm, then there were seven.

Seven loyal members got into a fix,
They quarreled over programs, and then there were six

Six members remained with spirit and drive,
One moved away, then there were five.

Five steadfast members wished there were more,
One became indifferent, then there were four

Four cheerful members who never disagree
Til one complained of meetings, then there were three.

Three eager members! What do they do?
One got discouraged, then there were two.

Two lonely members, our rhyme is nearly done,
One joined the bridge club. then there was one.

One faithful member was feeling rather blue,
Met another "HAM" and then there were two

Two earnest members, each enrolled one more Doubling
their number, and then there were four.

Four determined members just couldn't wait
Til each won another, and than there were eight!

Eight excited members signed up 16 more.
In another six verses, they 'll be a thousand twenty-four!

—Author Unknown



CHAPTER REPORTS

Chapter Reports are a very important part of the Journal and we would like to see regular reports from all chapters. If your chapter is not represented on these pages, please ask your secretary to file a special report for the Journal. Please send the reports to Chuck Walbridge, General Manager, to arrive no later than the following dates: January 1, April 1, July 1 and October 1.

Chapter 2, Chicago (IL)

President Jim Quinn, K9JQ, opened the meeting at 6:30 PM.

There were 9 members and 4 guests in attendance.

During the wait for the meal, Jim Quinn welcomed the members, their guests and the non-members.

Jim then asked for the Secretary's report. Gil, W9BUB, stated that at that point there were 8 members who had not yet paid dues for 2004, but unfortunately none of them were present so it was not possible to collect at that point.

He also announced that we had new members in attendance. He introduced Tim Toman, N9TO, his wife Pamela Toman, KB9SCM, their daughter, Carol Toman, WD9CNN, and their son Chris Toman, KC9DLL. Carol is enrolled at Georgetown University and will begin her studies in the fall.

Everyone welcomed the new members and such a nice ham family.

Then Treasurer K9JQ reported that we were in the black. We ended up 2003 with a few dollars more than we started out with. We started in January 2003 with 1064.26 and ended with 1194.09. The financial report was given to the Newsletter editor for inclusion in the next newsletter.

Then dinner was served. The restaurant served its usual fine meal. Attendees had a choice of fish, chicken or beef. But it also includes salad (outstanding and all you can eat), soup, rolls, entrée, and desert.

The program after dinner was Mike Brost, WA9FTS (with additional material by his friend Carol) of their trip to Italy. Mike took digital pictures and then edited them with supplementary graphics and put them on a tape.

Mike showed his arrival at Rome and scenes in Rome. Then to St. Peters and the Sistine Chapel, the Coliseum, the Spanish Steps (and told us why they're called the Spanish Steps). Also the Pantheon, the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier and many more.

Then they went to Florence, then the Leaning Tower of Pisa, Genoa, Milan, Stresa, and finally to

Locarno Switzerland. They had lunch at the balcony that inspired Shakespeare in writing Romeo and Juliet. Further on to Venice, Pompeii and finally Naples. On the return trip to Rome, there's a stop at Monte Casino.

Best of all, it was a tour and Mike did not have to drive.

Mike is a wonderful tour guide and presents a wealth of knowledge about his trip.

The meeting closed at 9:30 PM.

Gil Kowols, W9BUB, Secretary



Dale, WA9ENA and Susan, KE9LI Svetanoff, long time members.



Richard Gieras, Jean Cone and Al Mazure, W9LOB enjoying the brunch.



The Toman family: From left to right: Pamela, KB9SCM; Carol, WD9CNN; Tim, N9TO; and Chris, KC9DLL. Pamela and Tim are new Chapter 2 members.



Mike Brost, WA9FTS and his assistant, Carol Sparacio, preparing their Italy presentation.

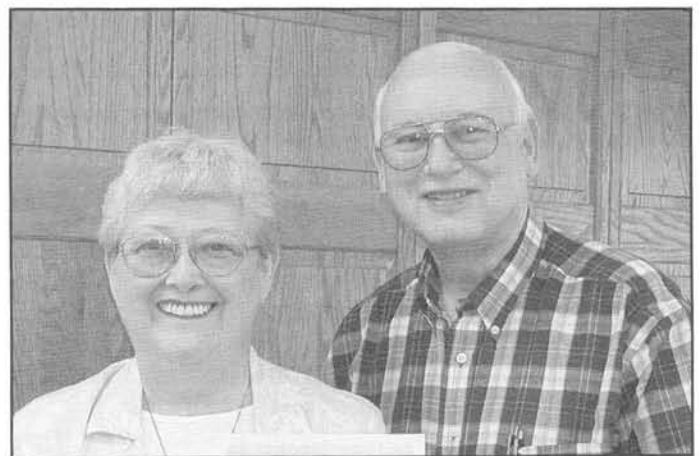
Chapter 10, Michigan

Twenty-two members and guests of Michigan Chapter 10 were welcomed to sunny skies, 70-degree temperatures, a wonderful array of good foods, and great fellowship as we celebrated our annual summer picnic at the Kenwood Park in Cadillac, MI, on Wednesday, August 18, 2004. A special invocation, written by our chapter Chaplin, Dale Cryderman, N8EIZ, was read, and recognition of recent and past silent key members was observed. After a brief business meeting, everyone enjoyed a great meal followed by visiting and fun. The chapter history book was on display and included a wonderful history of the chapter, its founding fathers, and many pictures of past and present members, events, and a special section for our dearly departed silent key members from days gone by. A special recognition to Stella Bishop, xyl of Jim Bishop, W8JFB, for all of the many hours of research and work that she has donated to this project.

Members and guests that were in attendance were: Jim Bishop, W8JFB, and his xyl Stella, Doug Almquist, WB8VOF, and his xyl Maryanne,

KC8WKN, Beverley Stoner, K8ZJU, Ed Ireland, W8HZF, and his xyl Norma, Pete Hansen, W8TWA and his xyl Linda, Leo Woodard, WD8DCA, Tony Mazurek, W8CDC, and his xyl Diane, Al Travis, W8CHT, John ("Jack") Goff, W6RTO and his xyl Carol, KB7ALL, Myriam Gregg, K8ILN, and her daughter Annette McCord, Karl Roersma, W8KGR, Grant Pearce, W8GEP, and his xyl Marlene, Lowell Corbin, W8IQB, and his xyl Robin, NI9R.

Through the untiring efforts of our entire membership, Chapter 10 continues to grow with a current active membership of 92 members. It is essential that all chapters strive to recruit new members, as the very survival of our entire organization depends on what we can do today to bring in new members. Many of our members have been talking to other eligible amateurs about the benefits of QCWA, inviting them to join us at our chapter activities, weekly ssb net on 75 meters, and assisting those new prospects with their QCWA membership application process. We have found that the single most important element in the recruiting process is to treat new prospects the same way that you would like to be treated, no high pressure, lending assistance whenever possible, and making them feel welcomed into the chapter and its activities. Feedback from our new members confirms that this method of recruiting has worked well for us. Every chapter will be different, but we thought that we would share some of our success with other chapters in hopes that it might help others to increase their membership numbers as well. We have an excellent national headquarters staff waiting to serve our every need. Our response from the headquarters has been excellent, and in light of the recent silent key losses to our national staff, the General Manager and Board of Directors are doing an excellent job of keeping QCWA running smooth-



WAYNE HUHTA, W8GXB of Goshen, IN. is pictured with his xyl, Esther, W6MQE, as he receives his 50-year Continuous Licensing Gold Certificate.

Chapter Reports

ly and are to be commended on their excellence.

Any eligible amateurs wishing to join QCWA and/or Chapter 10 may do so by contacting our secretary, Jim Bishop, W8JFB, via email at slojim@lighthouse.net or regular mail at: 332 Pte. LaBarbe Rd., Saint Ignace, MI, 49781-9657. All qualified amateurs are invited to join us on our weekly ssb net on 75 meters, starting with a pre net at 7:30 AM, EDST, and our regular net at 8:00 AM, EDST, on 3.903 Mhz. Notices of current chapter activities and related announcements are made at the beginning of the regular net. Visitors are always welcome to our net and we invite your questions or comments.

We are honored to announce the addition of the following QCWA members to our Chapter 10 family: Karl G. Roersma, Q8KGR, of Cedar Springs, MI., John D. Benthall, N8CCK, of Burton, MI., Richard H. Mark, WZ8N, of Manistee, MI., John F. Goff, W6RTO, of Bay City, MI., David DeRain, K8ESQ, of Walled Lake, MI., John R. Burelson, KA8ARF, of Davison, MI., and James C. McLaughlin, N8TT, of Lennon, MI.. Welcome to Chapter 10, and we look forward to many years of good fellowship and fun.

Awards presented during this past quarter were as follows: John, ("JACK") Goff, W6RTO, of Bay City, MI., received his QCWA Century Club Award,



The 22 Chapter 10 Members and their guests at the annual picnic, held in Kenwood Park at Cadillac, Mi. on August 18, 2004.

QCWA Gold Certificates for 50 years of licensing, 55 years of licensing, and 60 years of licensing. James Monaghan, N8GNQ, of Ypsilanti, MI., received his QCWA Gold Certificate for 50 years of licensing. Wayne Huhta, W8GXB, of Goshen, Indiana, received Fifty Year Continuous Licensing Gold Certificate. Constance Creighton, AA8DO, of Roscommon, MI., received her QCWA Gold Certificate for 50 Years as a licensed amateur and Merle Lawrence, W8LUI, of Ann Arbor, MI., received his Fifty Year Continuous Licensing Gold

Certificate. We wish to extend our congratulations to all of these members for their respective achievements.

It is with profound sorrow that the members of Chapter 10 received notice of the loss of two of the QCWA headquarters staff members to silent keys. Jim Walsh, W7LVN, of Eugene, OR., our past General Manager and Manager of the QCWA Memorial Scholarship Program, who passed to silent key on September 04, 2004, and Gerry Wentz, KC4EHT, of Melbourne, FL., Editor of the QCWA Journal, who passed to silent key on September 07,



CONSTANCE CREIGHTON, AA8DO, of Roscommon, Mi. receives her QCWA Gold Certificate for 50 years as a licensed amateur.



MERLE LAWRENCE, W8LUI, of Ann Arbor, MI. is shown with his xyl, "Roberta" as he receives his 50-year Continuous Licensing Gold Certificate.

2004. Our thoughts and prayers are with their families and all of us will miss them both in Chapter 10, and the amateur radio community.

We are proud to announce that Chapter 10 member Leonard M. Nathanson, W8RC, of Farmington Hills, MI., has been reelected to the QCWA Board of Directors for another term.

Our next scheduled major chapter activity will be our annual business meeting and election of officers, to be held at the Waterfront Restaurant, in Cadillac, MI. on May 07, 2005. This event will be held in conjunction with the Wexaukeee Amateur Radio Club Swap and Shop, held at the Cadillac



JOHN "JACK" GOFF, W6RTO, of Bay City, MI. pictured with his xyl Carol, KB7ALL, received his QCWA Century Club Award, QCWA Gold Certificates for 50-years, 55-years and 60-years as a licensed amateur radio operator.

Junior High School, on that same date. Highlights will include a QCWA Chapter 10 50/50 drawing, with the winning ticket to be drawn at the luncheon. QCWA membership applications will be available at that time. Further details will be announced each Sunday at the beginning of our regular net at 8:00 AM, EDT.

Members of Chapter 10 would like to extend their best wishes to everyone for a Happy and Prosperous New Year in 2005!

James F. Bishop, W8JFB Secretary/Treasurer

Chapter 14, San Diego (CA)

The Fall meeting of Chapter 14 was held on Sunday September 19, 2004 at Denny's restaurant in Clairemont. Everyone seemed pleased with the new location (the usual meeting place, Bayview Restaurant is closed due to alterations). We met in a spacious, pleasant banquet room. The food service was good and reasonable.

The program was presented by Dan Carney, a Landscape Architect with the City of San Diego. Dan works with the Water Resources Management program. He reminded us that we San Diegans are favored with an ideal climate that allows for a wide variety of plants growing the year round. However, as a result, San Diego has become a very desirable place to live, attracting people from all over the world so that with over 3 million inhabitants, our water requirements have become critical. Water conservation has become a high priority and hence the city of San Diego is involved deeply in aiding not only homeowners but institutions and businesses in the planning of landscaping that utilize plants that have low water requirements. Mr. Carney's program included a slide show presenting various

landscape and garden ideas. Don concluded his presentation by handing out free CD's entitled "Southern California Heritage Garden Guide"

Long time Chapter 14 member, George T. Mitchell, K6ZE World War II Veteran and Tuskegee Airman was invited to Washington, DC to attend the dedication of the WWII Memorial this last Memorial Day weekend. This is his account of his experiences:

"It was an amazing five days. I have never seen so many veterans representing every branch of the military gathered in one place. The National Park Service estimated that as many as 80,000 people would visit the Mall throughout that Memorial Day weekend. The largest attendance was on Saturday, May 29, when the National WWII Memorial was dedicated. Prior to the dedication the daily attendance at the Memorial and Mall was estimated at 200,000.

The Mall had a 'Homecoming stage' where the 'Ink Spots' performed and sang songs such as 'We'll Meet Again' and 'It's Only a Paper Moon'. Inside the 'Capitol Canteen' Tent, a group called the USO Liberty Belles boogied and woogied the night away. In the 'War-time Stories' Tent Tuskegee Airmen, Lt. Col. Lee Archer and Capt. Roscoe Brown told of their experiences flying and fighting the Germans in their Red Tailed P-51 Mustangs. They were attached to the 332 Fighter Command. Many tents throughout the Mall had veterans relating their wartime experiences.

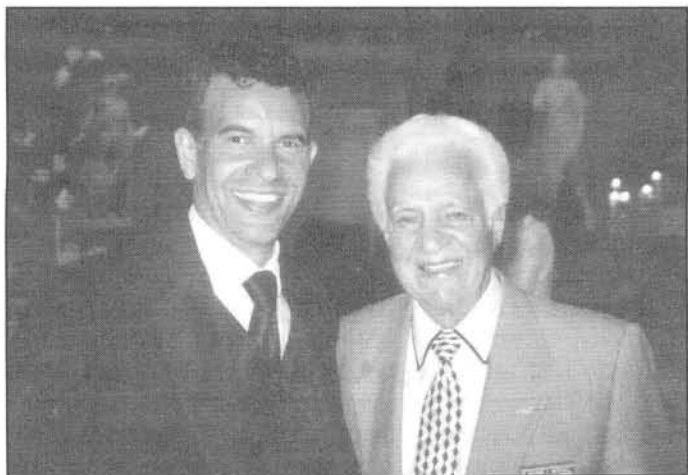
I met Navajo Code Talkers. I met Japanese Americans who fought the Germans in Italy. Also the 446 Infantry African Americans who were in General Patton's Tank Corps, and many veterans of the Korean and Vietnam Wars.

What a truly amazing experience to be part of. It was an emotional time meeting with fellow veterans and swapping stories. We were at that time truly a band of brothers.

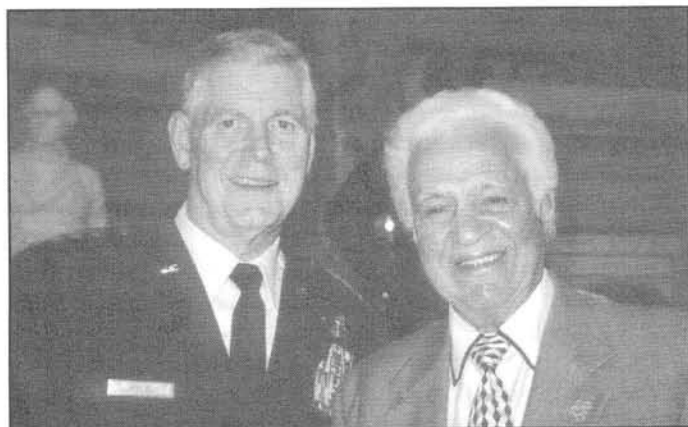
The evening following the Memorial Day dedication I attended the D.C. Memorial Day Concert on the Capitol Building Grounds. My youngest son, Tony Award recipient, Brian Stokes Mitchell, opened the concert by singing the National Anthem. He also performed throughout the concert with Marin Mazzie.

I topped the evening off by attending a party in the Capitol Building with my Daughter-in-law Allyson Tucker Mitchell. I also had the pleasure of meeting and talking with Air Force General Richard B. Myers, Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff. He came over to my table to shake my hand when he found out I was a WWII Vet and a Tuskegee Airman. My trip to Washington was wonderful and I just wanted to share it with you."

Submitted by Reuben Onstad, N6BAS, Secretary



George T. Mitchell, K6ZE QCWA Member 4465 who was a WWII Vet and Tuskegee Airman and his youngest son Brian Stokes Mitchell who was one of the principal entertainers at the Memorial Day Concert on the Capitol Building Grounds.



Air Force General Richard B. Myers, Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff and WWII Vet and Tuskegee Airman George T. Mitchell, K6ZE QCWA Member 4465.

Chapter # 20 Baltimore (MD)

Thanks to our VP Les Jamison, WR3X, and our Coordinator, Bruce Carpenter, W3YVV, twenty-four members and guests (photo) enjoyed our annual Chapter #20 picnic at Patapsco State Park on September 13. It was a memorable day, with ideal weather.

Preliminary plans were discussed for our sit-down luncheon Holiday Party in early December. Our Committee is Les WR3X, Bruce W3YVV and Betty, N3PKX.

Join us any Monday Noon, except Federal holidays, for a fabulous lunch at Cactus Willies Steak Buffet and Bakery, 7315 Ritchie Highway, Glen Burnie, MD. It is directly across from the Empire Towers. Your XYL is invited any Monday, but especially on the first Monday of each month.

John Johnston, W3BE



QCWA Baltimore Chapter # 20 Chapter Picnic!

Chapter 21, Canton (OH)

The regular quarterly meeting of QCWA, Chapter 21, Canton, Ohio, was held on August 21, 2004, following dinner at the Amish Door, Wilmot, Ohio. President Perry Ballinger, W8AU presided for a business meeting. There were 27 members and guests present.

It was reported that these members have been hospitalized: David Polen W8FRB, Ray Scoville K8DEN, Ralph Schoener W8TPS.

President Ballinger presented the 55 year Anniversary Award for amateur operation to Nelson Caley W8EAR.

Editor Joseph Vignos, Sr. W1FEZ introduced his son, Joseph Vignos, Jr., who described his recent five years in Japan. A world traveler, he first went to Japan in 1990. He returned there in 1998.



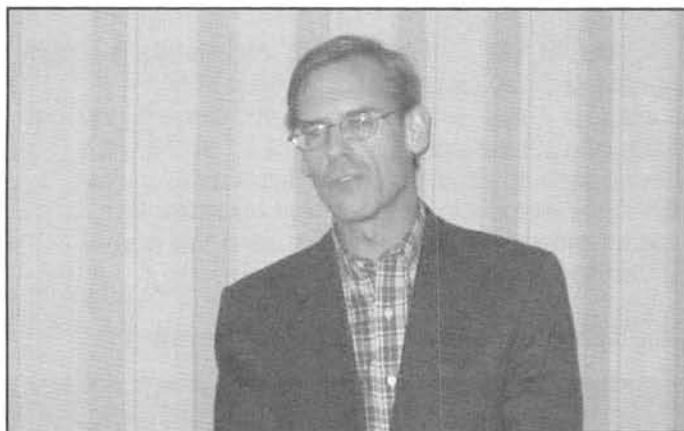
Nelson Caley W8EAR (L) is presented the 55 year certificate by President Perry Ballinger W8AU (R). Digital photo by Ed Clinger WA8DRT.

and lives in Shimonoseki where he teaches English. He was married there in 2002. He discussed the economy, customs, and tourism.

Our member, Myrhl R. Lemley W8MND, became a Silent Key on September 7, 2004. At age 87, he was a Charter Member of Chapter 21. He received his 70 year anniversary certificate this year, also. Following high school "Lem" completed signal corps engineering school and attended the University of Akron. He served in WWII in the U. S. Naval Communications Reserve and later, in the Army in Special Signal Headquarters in the Pacific. He retired from the Timken Company as a mechanical engineer. We offer our condolences to Lem's family.

You may visit the Chapter 21 Web Site at www.cmh.net/qcwa.

David Glass W8UKQ, Secretary



Joseph Vignos, Jr. spoke about his experiences in Japan. He is the son of chapter editor, Joseph Vignos, Sr. W1FEZ. Digital photo by Ed Clinger WA8DRT.

Chapter 30, West Virginia (WV)

The fall gathering of the WV Chapter 30 took place September 18. Unfortunately, heavy wind and rains from hurricane Ivan went through the state the day before resulting in floods that weekend at forty-year record high levels. We still had a good turnout with 16 members and an excellent demonstration using PSK by Don Lemley, W8DL.

It is sad to report that Laymon Knicely, W8CCR became a silent key in September at the age of 90. Laymon was a long time member of the chapter serving as President for several years. His main interest in ham radio was the use of CW and rag chewing with his friends. Laymon moved to Tennessee about two years ago to live with a son due to declining health but continued to be active from there. His obituary is posted on the QCWA web page.



Chapter 30 members gather for a photo.



Chapter 30 members observe a demonstration.

Writing this report in September, it is hard to think it is cold with snow on the ground as you read this. I hope the bands have been good for everyone this winter. I'm sure we are all looking forward to getting out of the shack, looking for that special gadget and visiting each other at upcoming hamfests. I don't have the exact dates but Fayetteville should be coming up in February followed by Charleston in March. Look for the chapter banner at each hamfest and stop by to say hello. Better yet, bring a friend and sign them up.

Dave W8UI, Secretary

Chapter 45, Citrus (FL)

It is with deep regret that we read on the QCWA web page that Jim Walsh, W7LVN and Gerry Wentz, KC4EHT, Journal Editor have become Silent Keys. Jim has been General Manager of the QCWA for the past 11 years. Under his leadership, and the indispensable help of his assistant Jan Hayter, the General Manager's office literally leaped into the digital age. The new General Manager, Chuck Walbridge, K1IGD, has a good solid base on which

to continue the operations of QCWA. As Secretary of Chapter 45 during many of those years I relied on Jim's office for information and guidance many times.

Under the leadership of Gerry Wentz the QCWA Journal has grown as the needs of the membership demanded, into a first-class publication. They will both be missed and we are thankful for the dedication and leadership they have presented to our membership.

Hurricane season in Florida arrived at the home base of chapter 45 with a double whammy. First "Charley", that was meandering up the west coast of the state, took a sharp right turn at Punta Gorda and roared up the I-4 corridor right into Orlando. It was a category one hurricane by the time it reached our area but its path was very narrow making it more deadly. Three weeks later "Frances" came ashore on the east coast of the state. This storm was very large, bigger than the state of Texas and moved very slowly making its effects the greater. The Melbourne Hamfest scheduled for the 11th and 12th of September had to be cancelled this year.

Our local membership did not sustain any great degree of damage from the storms. There was enough warning for time to secure antennas and feedlines reducing the effects to a minimum. Some areas were without electric power for up to 2 weeks. Generators were in high demand and became very scarce.

Chapter 45's regular meeting is on the third Wednesday of each month. Members and guests begin to gather at the Picadilly Cafeteria, 1840 E. Colonial Drive in Orlando about 11:30AM for lunch and time of fellowship. The formal meeting begins about 12:30PM. Any ham that is in the area is welcome to a time of good fellowship. The Chapter operates an open repeater, W4PLA, on 147.195mhz, net at 1930 local time every Tuesday.

Paul A. Turner, W1DLP, Secretary

Chapter 67, Austin, (TX)

The Austin area chapter has been meeting each month this past year. During the summer months, the chapter met at different restaurants to try them out. The September meeting was at Ryan's Restaurant which just may be our permanent home.

In August, the chapter manned a booth at the annual Austin Summerfest Convention. Vice President Bil Henson, WB5SYS, organized the final setup of the booth and recruited several new members. Chapter Treasurer Roger Wines, W5WIA, was one of the key folks who helped make the convention happen. It was one of the best turnouts ever for the yearly August event. Even

the weather cooperated with one of the coolest days in August in a long time.

Our own chapter Secretary, Keith Zimmermann, K5WX, had an article in the August issue of QST. The article presented the results of months of data collection on the efficiency of simple antennas for contacting the International Space Station using packet radio.

Another chapter member, former chapter President Curt Goodson, W4QBU, was able to help Jimmie Jackson, KG6GXO, a Korean War vet who lives in the area. Jimmie needed help with powering his handi-talkie. Curt just happened to have just what he needed.

The Austin Chapter also voted to again help at the annual Austin Radio Roundup. The Swapfest is to be held on November 5th and 6th. A banquet will be held on Friday evening, November 5. QCWA Chapter 67 is planning to help with the breakfast and lunch and snack services during the Saturday Swapfest.

President Milt Cram, W8NUE, experienced a bad lightning strike at his station earlier in the summer. There was extensive equipment damage throughout his house. A total of 33 items were damaged. Interestingly, the lightning's main impulse seemed to come in via a ladder line feedline on the doublet and missed the higher antennas on the tower.

Keith Zimmermann K5WX, Chapter Secretary



President Milt Cram, W8NUE, (center) addresses the August meeting of the Austin Chapter.

Chapter 70, National Capital, Canada

We had 39 members and 16 guests at our September 21 annual dinner meeting to which spouses' were invited. Welcomed were two new members, Cary Honeywell, VE3EV and Frank Stratton, VE3YY.

We were saddened that Bill Rieveley, VA3AWJ,



Joan Powell, VE3ZC receives from Croft Taylor, VE3CT, on behalf of her father Claude Bailey, VE1HU, a 70 year pin and certificate with the assistance of Doug Leach, VE3XK, pins chairman.

one of our Chapter 70 members, had become a SK.

As the term of office of president, Croft Taylor, VE3CT and director George Roach, VE3BNO at HQ is completed, it is to be noted that Chapter 70 has had a member on the QCWA board for the past 14 years. This meeting, with our spouses present, is when we award the year pins. Doug Leach, VE3XK, with the assistance of Croft Taylor, VE3CT, awarded a 70 year pin and certificate to Claude Bailey, VE1HU, which in his absence was accepted by his daughter Joan Powell, VE3ZC. 70 year pins and certificates were also awarded to Bill Barrie, VE3AAS; Barc Dowden, VE3TT, and Gord Grant, VE3DY (absent). 55 year pins and certificates were presented to Clare Fowler, VE3NPC; Gus Holtz, VE3VK; Bob Knapp, VE3CDG (absent) and Ken Pulfer, VE3PU (absent). A 50-year pin was presented to Ken Willing, VE3CV, and 40 year pins to John Barnhardt, VE3ZOV, and Dick Bonnycastle, VE3FUA. A Century Certificate will also be given on another occasion to Bob Knapp, VE3CDG, who was absent.

Did you know that a very unique relationship exists between a guide dog and his owner? Did you know that a guide dog understands a vocabulary of up to two hundred and fifty words; that it can find elevators, stairs and doors; and that you should just ignore the dog so as not to distract it from its guiding work. Blind amateur, Ian Martin, VE3PSK, told us how he has relied on guide dogs for the past twenty years. His current guide dog Wazey, is a five year old female black labrador. When eight weeks old the pup is placed into a family setting where he becomes exposed to streets, parks, malls and restaurants etc. The dog then goes to the guide dog center where he is trained for four or five months. Blind student and dog then train together at the center for four weeks. Then the real work begins at home for from three months to a year before a good relation-

ship is built up with the dog. Each dog is different with different personalities which makes it easier when you have to retire a dog when it is ten or eleven years old.

Clare Fowler, VE3NPC, Secretary

Chapter 73, Fred Hammond, Canada

Our Spring Meeting was held on Saturday, 1 May, 2004 at The Plainsman Restaurant. Chapter President, Tom Atkins, VE3CDM announced that Eric Enns, VE3BB became a silent key in February, at the age of 85. He also introduced a distinguished guest, Ken Oelke, VE6AFO, who is President of the Wild Rose Chapter 151 in Calgary, and is a past President of Radio Amateurs of Canada (RAC). Ken gave us a few words and became a member of our Chapter as well.



L-R Harold Braun, VE3DWH, awards chairman, VE3YB, VE3ND, VE3FHP, VE3CT.

This year is the 30th anniversary of the founding of the Chapter, which was celebrated by a Special Event Station operating as VE3HC from the Hammond Museum of Radio. Many contacts were made in the US and Canada, mostly on 40 metres.

Thanks to efforts of Paul Cassel, we now have a new chapter web site address www.qcwa.ca.

Another distinguished guest was Robin Haighton, AMSAT North America President, our main speaker,



Robin Haighton VE3FRH

Chapter Reports

who told us about the current and future activities of the amateur satellite world.

QCWA President Croft T aylor presented certificates to Clive Oakes, VE3YB-Century Club; James Cull, VE3ND-55years; and Dr. Hew Prouse, VE3FHP-55 years.

Certificates were also awarded to several members who were not present, Robert Boyd, VE3SV-70 years; Clarke Bradford, VE3WCB, Dennis Eason, VE3BRO, John Hann, VE3LKH, W. L. Morris, VE3TM, Tom Watson, VE3CYL all 55 years, and Bill Catlender, VE3ILE-50 years.

Pictures were courtesy of Paul Cassel, VE3SY.

Keith Bentley, VE3DHL - Secretary/Treasurer

Chapter 89, Palmetto (SC)

The September meeting of South Carolina Palmetto Chapter 89 took place at the Hill Top Drive on St Andrews Road, Columbia SC on September 25th 2004.

The installation of the incoming officers for the New Year took place as is the custom for the September meeting each year.

Jim Hill W5AQP, the new secretary/treasurer took over from Jenny Myers WA4NGV. Jenny had filled the position for 7 years and resigned effective with the September meeting. A big thanks to Jenny for doing such a fine job for all those years. Jenny was awarded a plaque at the last meeting in recognition of her service to the Chapter.

Outgoing president Dan Lykins KM4GT was presented with his plaque by incoming 1st VP Kenneth Ferguson K4KXO in recognition of his service as president for the past year.

Bill Pennekemp WA4WPG was installed as 2nd VP

A social hour was enjoyed and two new members and XYLs were acknowledged and welcomed to the group.

The next regular will be held at The Hill Top Steak House, St. Andrews Road, Columbia SC the last Saturday in February 2005

Ralph B. Mott N4RM

Chapter 110, Kansas (KS)

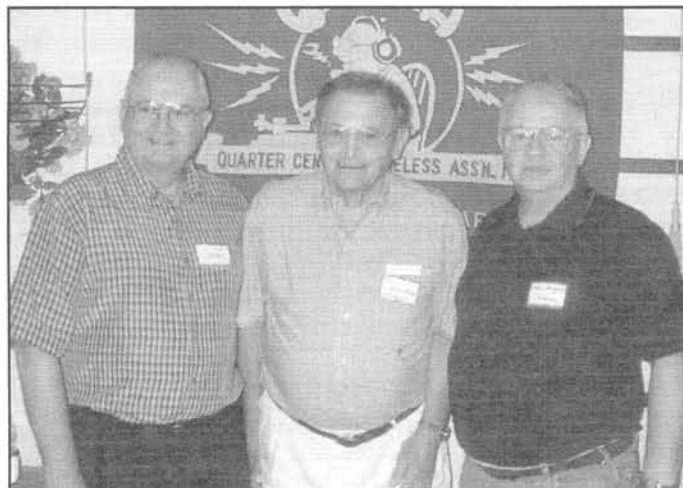
QCWA chapter 110 held their meeting in August 15th at the Kansas State Conv. and Hamfest.

We tried to have a Dinner catered in and it worked very well. Had 52 present at the dinner.

Had a QCWA cap for a door prize and KØRY was



Jim Hill W5AQP incoming secretary/treasurer on left with Jenny Myers WA4NGV.



Jim Hill W5AQP Sec/Treas left Bill Pennekemp WA4WPG 2nd VP center, Kenneth Ferguson K4KXO 1st VP right.



Dan Lykins KM4GT Receives past presidents plaque from Kenneth Ferguson K4KXO 1st VP.

the lucky one. Had a short meeting and had a round of introductions.

Also WØTQ appointed an election committee. KORY, WA0GRM, and KA0EIC.

All were invited to the KS, NE. Radio club to the picnic at Concordia Ks, on Sept 19.

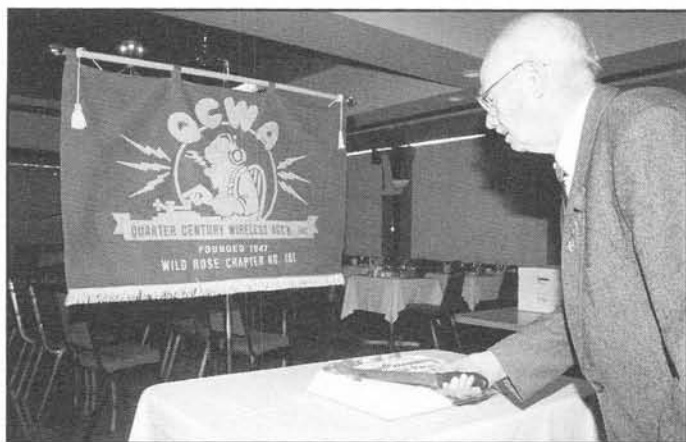
All that attended the dinner had a very good time. The QCWA table signed up 3 new members. Meeting adjourned and back to the drawing at the hamfest.

PS: It was also reported for anyone that didn't know, WØWXY Wilbur Naylor became a SK August 6th, age of 98. Was a Charter member of CH #110.

Alvin, WØME - Secretary/Treasurer

Chapter 151, Wild Rose (Canada)

Greetings from Chapt 151, Alberta Canada, your 2006 QCWA Convention hosts. We had a luncheon meeting on Sept 25 when we cut a 20th anniversary cake celebrating 20 years of Chapter 151 of the QCWA. A picture is attached showing VE6CA, Les Card, a past president of the Chapter cutting the cake.



VE6CA, Les Card, a past president of the Chapter cutting the cake.

the cake. We continue to sponsor local Schools for the Radio Amateurs of Canada Youth Education Project with one very successful school under our belt. We are looking for more Schools. We have a convention committee meeting scheduled in Calgary AB for October to start the organization of the 2006 QCWA convention. 73s from Chapt 151 Alberta Canada.

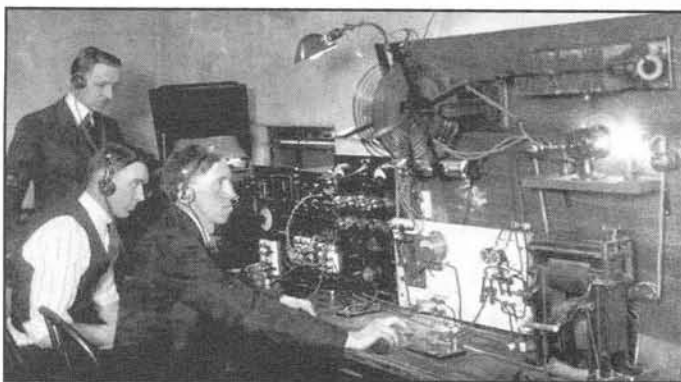
Al McNeil, VA7QQ - Secretary

Chapter 154, Leo Meyerson (CA)

Steve Jensen, W6RHM, was our January luncheon speaker. The 1918 photo shows Steve's grandfather, 9YD, operating his amateur radio station. You will

notice this is not "plug and play"! Steve told us about this station and demonstrated the actual rotary spark gap! The noise and ozone smell were great! Also, from the original station, were the transformer, inductor and key used in the 115-volt line!

Jim Henderson, K6JAD, from Riverside, has an extensive collection of old keys, ham radios, and consumer radios. For our February program, Jim brought a 1927 Super Wasp ham receiver built from a kit, a 1931 National SW3 receiver and other items shown in the photo. His collector's items brought back fond memories for several of our "seasoned"



Steve's grandfather operating his 1918 station.



Quent, W6RI, receives the 50 Year Award from Gene, W4IMT.



Gene, W4IMT, and Leo, W0GFQ, operating the special event station.



President Norman Luckey K7ZZM presents Don Ming, WB7F with his 70 year certificate.



Jim, K6JAD, with a small fraction of his collection.



Leo's, W0GFQ, 93rd birthday celebration.

members like W0GFQ, W6HAG, and K7ITX.

Our March chapter luncheon at Leo Meyerson's, W0GFQ, was a celebration of his 93rd birthday! As you can see in the photo, it was a fresco with forty well-wishers. There was a 20-meter mini (two hour) special event station set up under the canopy. Leo was able to greet a number of his long time friends via the medium he helped make famous. As one ham said: "Mr. Meyerson, it is a privilege and a pleasure to wish you a Happy Birthday!"

Gene Pentecost W4IMT- President

Chapter 160, Utah (UT)

It was another successful Mesquite Frolic, our 15th year, with near perfect weather to enjoy the outdoor festivities. A period of silence was observed in honor of the Silent Keys. Background music of Alvin Ray was played throughout the day. Norman Luckey, K7ZZM was elected President by unanimous vote. Congratulations Norm, may you have a long and fruitful reign! The afternoon came to a close and in the evening we met at the Thunderbird for dinner, as always it was over too soon.

Our annual dinner meeting was at the HomeTown Buffet in Salt Lake City, it was well attended and most enjoyable.

The 1st and 3rd Thursday Breakfasts in St. George continue to be enjoyed and on one such Thursday Norman Luckey, K7ZZM presented Don Ming, WB7F with his 70 year certificate (see photo).

Maryellen Vaughan W7CKD, Secretary/Treasurer



Miss Oklahoma, Elizabeth Kinney and Tad Burik, K3QC working CW at the Miss America Special Event station.

Chapter 162, Southeast (WI)

Over the next three months, our chapter membership will be assisting the Racine County Homeland Security Agency install its newly purchased Amateur Radio Station. Our members will be climbing (fortunately it is a two-story building with a flat roof and a stairway door access) to the roof to set up a couple of wire low band and a vertical VHF/UHF array of antennas. This group of finely talented individuals will then attempt to string the feed lines through the interior of the building and into the Homeland Security office, hook them to

their proper transceivers, so they are prepared to communicate with the world whenever emergency communication is required. Our Chapter will help staff the communication requirements, and assist in the Amateur Radio training for the community volunteers wishing to be involved in communication emergency preparedness. This is a first step in trying to get our area's business to recognizing the aspect of how they and the Amateur Radio forces in their town will work together should the need arise when a disaster strikes. This should be an interesting and enlightening experience for everyone involved in this most worthwhile project.

I am sitting at my computer on the first day of October writing this for the Winter Journal and reflecting over the activities our chapter has participated in so far this year; while warm feelings of pride cascade throughout my psyche. For a small chapter that is getting rather "long in the tooth" we have coordinated and provided communications for several countywide events. Special lighting event at the City zoo, a local high school's walk-a-thon, and a major triathlon (the largest in the Midwest) hosted by Racine County. We hold a weekly net and have done so almost since our inception in 1987. We set up and operated our own Field Day site, worked with a Safety Fair at our County's major mall, help set up and operate a special event station at the 4-day county fair and worked with the local Boy and Girl Scout troops with security and an informational Amateur Radio demonstration during their annual overnight stay at the area mall. It also brings to mind our annual meeting and election of directors for 2005. That outing, in just over three-weeks from now has a field of six candidates vying for the four director positions available. We will be presenting our most prodigious award at this event: The tenth, "Olin Fox, K9AKG Award of Excellence" to a most deserving individual. And the chapter picks up the luncheon tab for members and their attending guest.

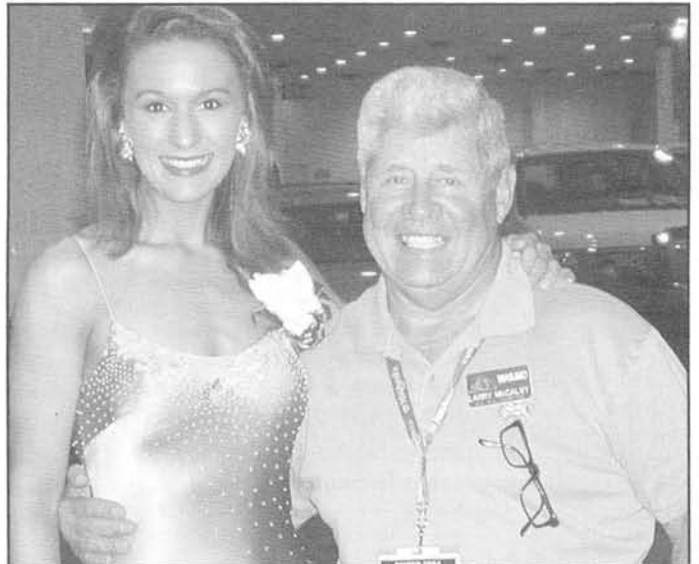
I have just returned from a wonderful adventure in Atlantic City, New Jersey. Thanks to the folks of the Southern Counties Amateur Radio Association (SCARA) and Jan Scheuerman, WA2YL, I was invited to participate with the Special Event Station, K2BR at the week long Miss America Pageant in Atlantic City's Boardwalk Hall. The group installed antennas on Sunday, September 12th and operated two continuous HF stations, Monday through Saturday, from 10 AM to 6 PM. We also assisted in security and provided communications for the three-hours Miss America Boardwalk parade on Friday evening, September 17th. Security was very tight with picture IDs required everywhere and were checked every time one moved from section to section. Thanks to Jan, I was able to obtain a Photographer's ID badge that allowed me to take

pictures everywhere except the dressing rooms and where the Miss America contestants had lunch. But one day I did venture into the luncheon area to take a few pictures and was verbally abused for being where I should not have been! WOW!

I attempted to work the special event station on several occasions but mostly experienced uncooperative bands conditions. I personally made very few contacts. The most exciting part for me, and I am sure others in our group, was the interaction between the Miss America contestants and our little group. We had seven or eight of young ladies talk to Hams across the country. Each of pageant folks



Miss Kansas, Megan Bushell, WA9JMO, Larry McCalvy; and Miss New Hampshire, Alyssa Spellman in front of the Miss America Special Event station in Convention Hall September 2004



Miss Virginia, Mariah Rice and Larry McCalvy, WA9JMO just prior to the evening gown competition.

(Chapter Reports continued on page 34)

and you thought it co



NEW RECEIVER GIVES +30dBm TOI

Using receiver design techniques introduced in the IC-7800, Icom's engineering team focused on producing a distortion-free, high-dynamic-range. To achieve this goal, Icom used higher-grade components in vital receiver sections of the IC-756PROIII. The result? Outstanding performance, whether the whole band is calling or you're trying to pull a "new one" out of the QRM.

LARGE INDUCTORS = LOWER DISTORTION

The IC-756PROIII uses large inductors instead of small coils in the bandpass filter (BPF) stage, because small coils sometimes cause magnetic saturation in the BPF stage. Large inductors can handle both strong signals and weak signals with much lower distortion.



LOW DISTORTION BPF SWITCHING

The BPF switching circuitry is one of the critical points in a receiver where distortion can be produced by strong out-of-band signals. Distortion at this early receiver stage then propagates throughout the remaining stages and cannot be removed by signal processing. The 'PROIII uses low distortion diodes with wide frequency characteristics that prevent formation of distortion components in the BPF stage.

NEW IC-756PROIII

A fusion of the great features from the '756PROII with new technology from the '7800!

...couldn't get any better!



LOW IMD ROOFING FILTER

The IC-756PROIII uses a fundamental-mode monolithic crystal filter for the roofing filter. Although it's more expensive than overtone-mode filters, this filter has a better shape factor and is less susceptible to intermod distortion under strong signal conditions. This is the same filter used in the IC-7800.



TWO NEWLY DESIGNED PREAMPLIFIERS

To minimize distortion and maximize dynamic range, the IC-756PROIII preamps use the same basic circuit design as those in IC-7800. Preamp-1 is a noiseless feedback design, with push-pull amplifiers. This design has a high intercept point and covers a wide frequency range. Preamp-2 uses bipolar transistors for higher gain, ideal when you use separate low-efficiency receiving antennas such as small loops or Beverages.

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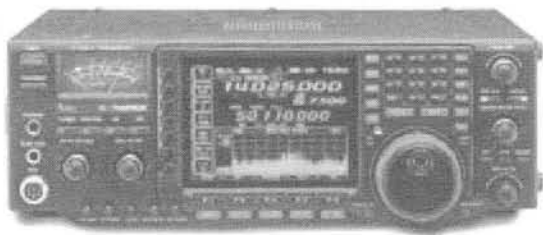
Questions about onboard activities, the Fox Island DX-pedition, and anything else can be directed to me:

Larry McCalvy, WA9JMO, 5400 Six Mile Road, Racine, Wisconsin 53402-9741, USA
telephone: (262) 639-7327, **FAX:** (262) 639-3320, and/or **email:** wa9jmo@wi.net



DX-Pedition to Fox Island NA-197

Please join our DX-Pedition to Fox Island. It is 12 Miles from Seward, located in Resurrection Bay, Alaska. We will be operating on Fox Island as IOTA NA-197 and classified as a rare IOTA contact. Only 10.1% of IOTA members have confirmed NA-197. Using the IC-756 PRO-II's provided by ICOM of America, we will set up and test the equipment on Wednesday, August 17, 2005. Then run the DX-Pedition straight through until tear down on Saturday morning, August 20, 2005. We expect to secure boat service between the island and Seward all day long. This will allow for short operating visits for those not wanting to spend their evening on the island. See our web-site for many of the options for this event:



www.qsltravels.org

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DX-Pedition information contact: k9dq@qsltravels.org

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HAM'S Health

By: Dr. Dub George, WA5BFF

Let me introduce myself. I am a 58 year old Ham-Physician. I am Board Certified in Internal Medicine and Geriatrics and was in private practice for 19 years. For the past 10 years I have been the Program Director of the Family Medicine Residency at the St. Mary Hospital in Port Arthur, a satellite program of the University of Texas Medical Branch at Galveston. I have been interested in Ham Radio since my early teens and earned my Novice license in 1962. I hold an Advanced Class license and am active in Slow Scan, RTTY and Fast Scan. I have also been interested in personal computers since the late 1970's and have a small computer consulting and custom assembly business as a sideline. I use my IBM-PC clone to publish a weekly newsletter for my Rotary Club and a monthly newsletter for my QCWA Chapter

In this column I would like to discuss health issues that are of interest to the readers of the Journal, I will start by addressing some of the problems that are more specific for this "special interest group". Home, shop and shack safety immediately comes to mind. I recently had to tell an octogenarian ham patient of mine that he is really getting too old to be climbing towers. This type of ham activity is best left to the younger fools in our hobby. Each year we read that one or more of our group has become a silent key because of a momentary lapse in concentration and respect for high voltage. I also shouldn't have to remind you that it is not wise to try to manipulate the fancy control panel of your new multi-band, multi-mode mobile transceiver (or even your cellular phone) in busy traffic.

The final word on the health hazards of electro-magnetic radiation is still not in, but it appears that the lower the power and frequency and the further away from the body the better. Does a hand held 2 meter rig or cellular phone create a significant risk for brain cancer? Probably not, but it gives one another reason to remember that a good ham spends a lot more time listening than talking.

Cardiac pacemakers are not uncommon among hams today. At least two of the 35 members of our local QCWA Chapter have recently had them implanted. The most common type used today is the "demand" pacemaker that is preset to take over if the heart rate drops below a pre-set value. This device must "read" the electrical activity created by the individual's own heart beat. If the pacemaker senses a "natural" heart beat before its pre-set time interval, it resets its clock and sits back to wait and watch for the next beat. If it does not sense a "natural" heart beat before its pre-set time interval, it "fires", stimulating the heart to beat. It then resets its clock and resumes its vigil. Through this mechanism of sensing normal beats and only firing when one fails to arrive, the demand pacemaker assures that the heart rate will not drop below a safe level, but will not interfere or compete with a heart rhythm that is above this predetermined minimum rate.

Unfortunately, the sensing electrode of the pacemaker may also function as an antenna and misinterpret a strong dose of RF energy as a heart beat. This can temporarily trick the pacemaker into thinking that it is not needed. If the patient is unfortunate enough to have a significantly low natural heart rate at this time there may be a sudden drop in the amount of blood being delivered to the brain. The individual may then suddenly lose consciousness.

The present generation of pacemakers is designed to allow "programming" by an external control device that uses pulsed RF to set such parameters as rate, intensity and duration of the stimulus. It is theoretically possible for extraneous electromagnetic signals to be erroneously interpreted by the device. In actual practice, this has been observed.

Significantly strong RF fields may be generated by small electric motors, surveillance systems that produce electromagnetic fields, industrial degaussing coils, industrial welding machines, electrically powered dental devices, medical electro-cautery devices and in electrical substations.

If a ham with a demand pacemaker keys his HF rig with a legal limit amplifier sitting next to it, he or she may unwittingly fool the pacemaker and lose consciousness. If this occurs when the push-to-talk bar on a D-104 is pressed, then as soon as the ham loses consciousness and drops the mike, the RF stops, the pacemaker resumes its function and there will be only a few seconds of unconsciousness. Maybe not even enough for his buddies on the net to notice. However, if the ham is into such modes as RTTY or Slow Scan with much longer duty cycle activities such as brag tapes and 72 second high resolution pictures, the results could be much more impressive and perhaps even catastrophic.

The solution to this problem is to avoid close exposure to high power RF devices. It is important that hams with pacemakers take this into consideration when they plan their future operating activities. Although it may take a little effort, the avid ham should be able to find a health care professional with a portable EKG monitoring device to run some field tests in the ham shack. A ham might consider lining his QCWA vest with copper screen attached to a grounding cable. It has been shown that RF fields below 100 watts are usually well tolerated. Modern state of the art pacemakers are designed with shielding and bypassing to reduce these problems to a minimum. The risk posed by a microwave oven is probably low.

Dr. William F. (Dub) George, WA5BFF

This is a reprint from the Journal Winter issue, 1993, but it still applies today. Thanks to Dr. George for his interest in our health. QCWA General Manager

Standing Committees as of October 20, 2004

	Committee Functions	Committee Membership
Finance	• Monitor Investments • Prepare & Monitor Budget Expenses • Review dues structure • Scholarship Program • Monitor Financial Advisor's Performance • Endowment Fund Oversight	Chairman, Lew Gordon, K4VX Vice Chair, Tom Atkins, VE3CDM Jerrel Jones, W5TUU Tony Hirsch, W8RSH Roger Volk, K0GOB Treasurer Frank Harris, WA4PAM* Croft Taylor, VE3CT* General Mgr. Chuck Walbridge, K1IGD* Scholarship Ch., Buddy Smith, W5YE*
Chapter Relations	• Chapter Awards, HQ Awards • Membership Growth • Recruiting Guidelines • Chapter Guidelines • Conventions • Operating Activities • Hamfest Coordination • Member Supplies	Chairman, Harold Chase, W1EES Vice Chair, Blanche Randles, W4GXZ Jan Scheurman, WA4YL Howard Cunningham, WD5DBC General Mgr. Chuck Walbridge, K1IGD* Bob Roske, N0UF* George Roach, VE3BNO* Larry McCalvy, WA9JMO* Ken Oelke, VE6AFO*
Administration	• Maintain various QCWA Documents (Constitution, By-Laws, Directors Guide, Membership Lists, Web Page) • QCWA History • NEMSO Contract	Chairman, Ed Yoder, W3YMB Vice Chair, Blanche Randles, W4GXZ Lew Gordon, K4VX Bill McGrannahan, N0ZL General Mgr. Chuck Walbridge, K1IGD* Croft Taylor, VE3CT* Bob Roske, N0UF (Webmaster)* Historian (Vacant)*
External Relations	• Recruiting Implementation • Maintain Relations with other Amateur Radio Organizations (ARRL, CRL etc.) • Monitor Regulatory Bodies Proceedings and reply as necessary • Scholarship Program • Operating Activities and Awards	Chairman, Len Nathanson, W8RC Vice Chair, Tom Atkins, VE3CDM Tad Burik, K3QC Secretary, Alan Pickering, KJ9N* General Mgr. Chuck Walbridge, K1IGD* Scholarship Ch., Buddy Smith, W4YE*
Publications	• Monitor the quality and content of the Journal • Develop other sources of Advertising and Revenue • Taping Program Oversight • Web Page content • Barter Advertising Oversight	Chairman, Bob Roske, N0UF Vice Chair, Croft Taylor, VE3CT Jerrel Jones, W5TUU Ray Minichiello, W1BC Fred Maia, W5YI General Mgr., Chuck Walbridge, K1IGD* Bob Roske, N0UF (Webmaster)* Blanche Randles, W4GXZ*

*Advisors to committees

NOTES: The President and Vice President are Members ex-officio of all above committees. The following is the contact information for non-board members:

- Tad Burik, K3QC, 239-649-5599 <wa8pxl@juno.com>
- Howard Cunningham, WD5DBC, 703-359-9211 <howardc@macrollc.com>
- Tony Hirsch, W8RSH, 614-880-4466 <thirsch@ameritech.net>
- Fred Maia, WYI, 817-795-9594 <fmaia@texas.net>
- Larry McCalvy, WA9JMO, 262-639-7327 <wa9jmo@wi.net>

- Bill McGrannahn, N0ZL, 816-561-0730 <hamster@kc.rr.com>
- Ray Minichiello, W1BC, 603-472-9746 <pcusimd@cs.com>
- Ken Oelke, VE6AFO, 403-277-0507 <ve6afo@3web.net>
- George Roach, VE3BNO, 613-234-0885 <groach@igs.net>
- Jan Scheurman, WA2YL, 239-560-8495 <ylham@earthlink.net>
- Buddy Smith, W4YE, 540-721-4684 <w4ye@aol.com>

had hoped to talk with someone from their home state. But, as far as I know, none did. Tab Burik, K3QC even talked two of the girls into operating CW. I am not sure if he wanted to introduce them to the fine art form that CW implies, or he just wanted to hold their hands on the paddles as they sent their message to the world via dots and dashes. I found all the young ladies we came in contact with were wonderful. They were warm, outgoing, friendly, and very articulate. Time permitting, they were very willing to have their pictures taken with our group members and sign our pageant books. I have included a few of the pictures from the event and have a whole album for my personal viewing enjoyment. The event and the Hams working it were a most enjoyable group to be apart of. If you ever have the opportunity to participate in this grand endeavor, leap with all your being into it. You will find it leaves a bright and indelible highlight mark on your road through life.

73, Larry McCalvy, WA9JMO

Chapter 175, Oregon Coast (OR)

The Oregon Coast chapter meets every two months for a luncheon at the Surfrider Resort north of Depoe Bay, Oregon on Highway 101. This is usually on one of the last Saturdays of the month at 2 p.m. These luncheons are fun and informal with an outstanding window view out over the Pacific Ocean. Stop in and catch a peek at one of the many spouting whales passing by during their annual migration. It's winter storm season and mother nature never fails to put on a good show for us. Visitors, spouses, and guests are welcome. Contact W7LI@arrl.net for information and the next meeting date.

Carl Somdahl W7LI - Secretary

Chapter 183, Pioneer (MA)

QCWA Chapter 183 held the Summer meeting on July 17th at CJ's on Wilbraham Rd. (rte 20) in Palmer, MA. Members present included Norm W1BMK and his XYL Betty KB1CPZ, Harold W1EES, Chuck K1IGD and his XYL Jan, Dick W1TXS, Don W1UPH, Cliff W1UWX and his XYL Mary Jo, Dick W1QWJ and his guest Norm N1PF, John N1JIO, Blanche W4GXZ, Larry K1ILZ, and Pat N1CET.

After a delicious lunch President Norm W1BMK opened the business meeting. Pat N1CET introduced the speaker Joyce Libby of Hampden. Joyce has been a teacher in the Education Department at Sturbridge Village for 28 years. She uses role-playing as a way of involving children she is teaching.

Today she role-played as the part of a housemother for young women who are working in the Lowell mills in the early eighteen hundreds. Joyce was dressed in a costume of the era and passed around several items used by women at that time plus pictures and a few tools pertaining to the mills and mill workers.

After a very interesting talk, Norm continued the business meeting. He asked for a moment of silence in memory of George Hughes W1ALL.

A motion was made and voted to discontinue reading the secretary and treasurer reports as they are printed in the QCWA Pioneer that is sent to all members.

Announcements were made to remind members of the New England Chapters picnic being hosted this year by the Yankee Chapter and being held at the Steam Engine Museum in Rhode Island and the Boxboro convention. Also the annual National QCWA meeting will be held in Ottawa in October. Members were also reminded to send their ballots for the National directors. (We are very fortunate to have two of the eight newly elected National Board of Directors as members of our club, Blanche W4GXZ and Harold W1EES.)

New business including appointing a nominating committee for 2005. Norm appointed Larry K1ILZ as chairman of the committee. Norm and Betty will be working at the Eastern States Exposition and will pass out applications for new membership. Clubs in the area will be contacted to see if any members are interested in joining the QCWA.

Raffle tickets were drawn. Winners were Blanche W4GXZ and Larry K1ILX.

There will be a board meeting held on December 15th. All members are welcome to attend.

Pat N1CET, Secretary

Chapter 213, Fresno (CA)

The membership of the Fresno Chapter is 34 and growing. The Chapter meets the 4th Tuesday of each month at Carrow's Restaurant, 4280 N. Blackstone Ave in Fresno. All QCWA members in the area are welcome to attend. In August members of Fresno Chapter 213 and Mid Sierra Chapter 198 held a joint meeting at the Chukchansi Gold Casino, midway between Fresno and Ockhurst. There were 41 members and guests at this affair. The food was great. WQ6CWA and W6GV, our chapter call signs were active in the Fall QCWA QSO Party. The meetings are informal and very cordial.

Charles McConnell W6DPD Secretary/Treasurer

SECOND ADDENDUM TO *THE AGE OF RUGGED INDIVIDUALISM*

This addendum to "The Age of Rugged Individualism" is a potpourri of "Our Gang" careers.

by Ace Winter W2ADB
February 15, 2004

This addendum highlights the frequency of peculiar coincidences and guardian angels. It also refers to a group of high-spirited individuals and their careers in the world of rugged individualism. This group started out as members of the Staten Island Radio Club, and most progressed from Ham radio to commercial radio and beyond.

My first realization of what was going on in the world occurred in 1917 in the middle of World War One. At the time we were living in a top floor unit of an apartment house located at the southwest corner of 181st Street and Pinehurst Avenue in New York City.

On those summer nights the heat was unbearable. There was no air conditioning, so the tenants all went up to sleep on the roof for a few hours until things cooled off enough to go downstairs. One night while we were up there I observed that the Hudson River was full of ships at anchor as far as the eye could see, both north and south of us. It was a beautiful clear night with all the millions of stars out there blinking away.

There were some warships south of us. They were signaling to each other with massive searchlights that reflected at the underside of some clouds. I was so fascinated by that telegraphy and the sight of all the ships that I knew that someday I wanted to signal by telegraphy, go to sea, and work the wireless. That was the beginning of my hobby as a seagoing wireless operator, which was quite an aspiration for a seven-year-old kid.

Then one weekend the U.S. Navy had "visitors day" to visit a relative or friend who was in training aboard a naval vessel docked at 125th

Street and the Hudson River. My father had a friend who was training aboard that vessel, so we were invited to visit him. The result was that my father and I took the subway down to that dock and visited his friend. Then I learned something about warships. This vessel was wooden with cannons at various openings in the sides of it. I remember seeing the brig with a sailor inside and an armed sailor guarding him on the outside. The sides of the vessel were sloping and it surely did not look like a warship to me. I later found that it was a Civil War warship.

At a later time my father's friend told him that upon becoming an ensign, he sailed to France aboard a cargo vessel constructed of concrete instead of steel. That was a substitute for steel which the country was short of. That program was not very successful and only a few such ships were built.

Evidently his ship did not have a steering engine. He said it was a rough voyage and that it took four men to hold the steering wheel.

One Saturday afternoon in 1917, my father arrived home from work in an excited condition. When he left his office on Wall Street at noon he observed Army busses and soldiers grabbing every man they could get their hands on and forcing them into the busses. Then he noticed what he called "fences" (barricades) all over the place so that the civilians could not escape, but he and a lot of others climbed over them and "ran like hell" to the subway.

I don't know if the Army needed men that badly or whether they had liberals in those days who wanted to equalize the service with the other class. My father's guardian angel was with him; he made it away.

Then in 1928 I joined the ARRL and attended my first visit to an ARRL convention, which was held at 41 Whitehall Street in New York City in what was then called "The Army Building." There I met the Staten Island "gang" who had a booth there. I was very impressed. One of the guest speakers was a signal corps officer who told us how much the Army valued Ham operators. He said, "You Hams occupy the frequencies and keep them available for military use." Secondly he stated that when the USA went to war, the government ordered all amateur transmissions to cease, but before that happened they asked the ARRL to transmit a call for radio operators to volunteer for military service.

The response was overwhelming. Five thousand Hams showed up to volunteer. Remember that this was 1917, and now in 1928 there were 16,000 Hams of all ages. What a fantastic show of patriotism! As a matter of history, around 1929 or 1930 I heard and worked probably the only ship using an ARC transmitter on 600 meters. I mention this only for remembrances. I heard the tanker Bohemian transmitting with what sounded like swishing water and with the frequency swinging around a bit. I had never

"...the ABC Society had raided the armory and stolen a large supply of guns. The soldiers were ordered to shoot anyone who did not walk on the other side of the street."

heard that kind of signal before, so I called the operator and asked him what he was using for a transmitter. He answered that it was an ARC and that it was unstable at that low wavelength.

On my many trips to Havana aboard the SS Oriente, I met many rugged individualists. On one such occasion I was walking along a street there and suddenly something splattered on my head. At first I thought a bird had gotten me, but when I looked up I saw a rugged individualist at work. Directly above me was a balcony with a native manufacturing Havana cigars. The procedure was to maneuver and form the leaves in a wrapping fashion after passing them

through his mouth and over his tongue to lubricate them. Then I noticed that a part of the process was to accumulate a mouthful of tobacco juice and dispose of it by spitting it "overboard." This is why he did not work on the first floor!

I also noticed several other rugged individualists on other balconies. It was not uncommon to hear gunfire in the early hours of the morning next to the docked ship and on adjacent piers. That was the police doing battle with the ABC Society, a Communist group.

One night while walking back to the ship from Sloppy Joe's with my other radio operators, we were confronted by soldiers with drawn guns ready to shoot. They were shouting in Spanish. Our guardian angel appeared again when one of the operators who spoke Spanish shouted "Stop!" and stop we did. The translation which followed was that the night before, the ABC Society had raided the armory and stolen a large supply of guns. The soldiers were ordered to shoot anyone who did not walk on the other side of the street.

After leaving the SS Oriente, I worked as a mechanical engineer designing machinery, but the company ran out of money and I had to look for another job. After a nice long vacation I got ready to look for work. Then out of the blue I got a telephone call from the Stevens Alumni Association. Wright Aeronautical Corporation was looking for an ignition expert who was also a mechanical engineer, so they recommended me. I was told that their engines were having ignition problems and that there were more delays due to ignition than all other causes. I had an interview but did not impress my interviewer, nor did I get the job. However, his story was so interesting that I spent a few days inventing an aircraft ignition system, although I had never seen one. I sent the drawing to the interviewer, telling him I did not want to waste my work and indicating that even though I was not getting the job he was welcome to the information.

The next day he called me and hired me. Then he told me that a Dr. Carl Swanson, a consulting

engineer for United Airlines, had patented the same thing six months earlier. He wanted to know where I had gotten that information. I never told him it was from my guardian angel.

While working at Wright Aeronautical, my story gets interesting. My secretary was a well-endowed lady who was dating three men at the same time. One was our friend, who many of you know, Eddie Gruenewald, who rose to become manager of the Marine Service Division of RCA. Eddie and I became lifelong friends. I will now tell you about his rise to fame and his war hero service.

Eddie was an astute businessman with a rich sense of humor. He was always the life of the party. It was customary for a few of his friends to visit him at times when he returned home from sea during World War Two and have a small party. On one such occasion he returned home on a Saturday afternoon, and when we showed up he was laughing. He told us that just as he arrived home he received a telegram saying "return to the ship immediately." He went on to say, "I'm working with a bunch of jokers on that ship and this is another one of their pranks. The telegram was signed 'The Captain.' Now if the captain had really sent me that telegram, he would have signed his name. I have a five-day leave and I'm not going back until my time is up!"

Eddie's guardian angel saved his life with that decision, because when he arrived back the ship had sailed without him. On the day of his return, the radio and newspapers were announcing with great excitement that his ship, the troopship *Dorchester* had been torpedoed and sank with heavy loss of life. His ship was the one that became famous when four chaplains gave their life preservers to others who did not have any. They then stood in a circle, held hands, prayed, and sang as they went to meet their God. They were a Jewish rabbi, a Catholic priest, and two Lutheran ministers. God was truly with Eddie.

Eddie sailed all during the war on oil tankers, troopships, and cargo vessels and survived. When the War ended he became a union member and served as a delegate in charge of rep-

resenting the union in its negotiations with RCA. He became a master at negotiation, and every time the contract had to be renewed he beat RCA. RCA decided the only way to get him out of there was to hire him, which they did. Eddie was made an RCA inspector. Through due diligence he worked himself up to become manager of RCA Marine Service Division. He eventually retired from that post.

Here is a peculiar coincidence. Two of my friends had similar rescue experiences in World

"...Matty was unable to hear any stations nor did his transmitter appear to work. Later revelations in World War Two indicated that the jungles absorbed all the RF, which is why he did not hear anything."

War Two. Eddie was involved in one of them. On one occasion Eddie's ship came upon a raft drifting in mid ocean. There were men aboard who had been drifting for three days. Suddenly a PBY airplane appeared and landed in the water to pick them up, but upon takeoff the seas were rough and the PBY was overloaded and crashed. Then Eddie's ship picked up all of them. It turned out that the pilot was one of the guys who had been dating my secretary. The two rivals met, but later my secretary married the pilot.

A parallel situation occurred when my friend Fox's ship came upon my friend Lamb who had been floating in a raft for three days. I had another friend named Matty Camillo, W2WB. Many of you know him. He was a rugged individualist of the first order. He was also a courageous war hero. He sailed on oil tankers carrying gasoline during World War Two while German U boats were sinking five ships a day along the East Coast.

Going back in time to the year 1935, Matty demonstrated his skill and tenacity when, according to his story to me as best I can recall it, he was assigned to a ship that he was to

meet at a Caribbean island. When he arrived there he found out it was a passenger ship of the Panama Mail Steamship Line. So far so good. Then the next day, 1,700 fully armed soldiers marched aboard. It turned out that Paraguay was at war with Bolivia and he was on a troop ship. The story was that a large area of land far up the Amazon was rich in oil, and each country was fighting to annex it.

There was a territory dispute between them called the Chaco War. They sailed up the Amazon River for two days and then stopped at a dock to refuel and take on supplies. Meanwhile, Matty was unable to hear any stations nor did his transmitter appear to work. Later revelations in World War Two indicated that the jungles absorbed all the RF, which is why he did not hear anything. He kept transmitting, trying to raise somebody, but with no results. However, during the course of his excessive use of the transmitter, he burned out its power supply. By coincidence he was talking to someone at dockside about his problem, and this person told him that nearby there was an abandoned yacht that was aground and that it had a transmitter in it. So they went down to view it. Matty found a beautiful vacuum tube transmitter aboard and liberated it.

When he got it back on his ship he found that it was powered by alternating current, while his ship, like most ships of that day, operated on direct current. To correct that problem, Matty modified one of the ship's fans to make it a circuit breaker by making a flexible contact that the fan blades would touch as they swept by and thus obtained a make-and-break circuit. He then obtained Matty's form of alternative current and it worked. He was quite proud of his accomplishment, as well he should have been.

While his ship was at the dock, word came that the War was over because Bolivia had called it quits. There was additional news that there were two Bolivian submarines waiting for them one day's sailing time ahead. Matty told me that when they got back into the Atlantic, the liberated transmitter worked fine. Eventually he worked for CBS-TV for quite a while and finally retired from there. His adventure was not over, however.

One day a few days after he retired, he received a call from the Union, who asked him to do them a favor. They said they were short of operators and asked if he would be so kind as to take a government ship from Jersey City to Cherry Point, North Carolina. Matty said, "Sure." Then suddenly four men showed up at his house in a station wagon, and they helped him pack his bag, drove off, and would not tell his wife where he was going. It was a secret government mission.

His wife telephoned me, crying, and asked me to find out where he was going. I called the Union and was told Cherry Point, so I told her that Matty would be home in a few days. It turned out they were going to Cherry Point to take on a load of ammunition and were then going to Vietnam.

When Matty found out that he had signed on for a full trip to Vietnam, he explained to the captain that he had just retired and was doing everyone a favor for a few days' trip and not two months. He asked the captain to release him at Cherry Point, which he agreed to do.

During the 1938 Atlantic hurricane, my friend Fox was Chief Radio Officer aboard the first class liner Coamo, en route from Puerto Rico to New York. In the middle of the hurricane, the New York Daily News had a headline stating, in effect, "Ocean Liner Missing, Unreported for Two Days."

What really happened was that the ship blew over on its side from the high winds, and the oil in the ship's engines would not circulate at that angle of listing. So it was necessary to stop the engines. The ship listed even more, at an estimated 45°. What an experience with 500 passengers and crew hanging on for two days! The salt water spray invaded the ship, and according to what Fox told me, the transmitter was soaking wet with salt water and, of course, could not be operated. After two days, the winds subsided, and they were able to get the engines operating. Fox was able to dry out enough of the transmitter to be able to send a message to headquarters in New York that they were safe and proceeding.

The years between the 1920s and 1930s were an exciting time. During that period there was a terrific land boom in Florida. Prohibition was going full blast with all the excitement it produced. Travel to Florida from New York took 24 hours or more; it was an uncomfortable trip. Then the steamship lines had their heyday, since it involved a nice ocean voyage if there were no storms. The Munson line added icing to the cake. They ran the SS Munamar coastwise with an extra day and a stopover at Nassau, a British possession with plenty of booze available for those who were interested.

I made one trip on the Munamar as second assistant operator serving under a rugged indi-

"At about dawn I awakened and saw two full sized angels staring down at me. How did I get to Heaven? I don't remember having an auto accident on the ride up."

vidualist chief radio operator. Shortly before I signed on, the federal revenueurs discovered \$3,000 worth of booze in the engine room of another Munson line ship, so the heat was on to inspect all Munson liners. To counteract that problem, the chief operator had a hole cut out of the bulkhead where he and a few of his friends could hide their bottles while the ship was in an American port. There were rugged individualists everywhere.

About a year before World War Two began, I made the acquaintance of a local Ham who was in the naval reserves. They held meetings locally in the Teaneck Armory. One day he asked me to join their local reserve unit. He spoke to the commanding officer about me and came back with word that because of my commercial license and commercial radio experience, they would make me a radioman first class. I declined. Then he made a second offer: because I had an engineering degree they would make me an ensign. Because this was a communication outfit I started to get slightly interested and asked him which nights they met. His answer was "Friday night." I answered, "No

way, if it were any other night I would join up but on Friday nights I date a gorgeous blond who is a lot of fun and I'm not giving that up for anything."

Boy was I lucky! My guardian angel was looking over my shoulder, because two weeks later The Great White Father, FDR, declared a national emergency, and my friend wound up in a white sailor suit on a destroyer at Philadelphia. Now that was a year before the USA got into war. Our destroyers were escorting convoys to Europe. That could have been worse. That could have been me.

On my next activity I was hired as a consulting engineer to a start-up company who needed someone who knew something about radio and the radio industry. It was founded by a retired Air Force general who had the right connections in Washington. The Company became the last of 30 war surplus distributors for electronic war surplus for the federal government. That was an interesting job and got me interested in sales operations, in fact, so much so that my interest switched from engineering to sales. That job lasted a couple of years until there were no more items to be sold.

One amusing event occurred that was worthy of note. A group of four or five military men arrived from Argentina to buy war surplus, but they would not talk with anyone who was not a military man. They spoke with my general but would not speak with me until my general called me "Ace." Then one of them said, "What's with this 'Ace'?" My general said, "you know," as he put his hands together to represent airplane wings and moved them down like dive bombing and said, "Zoom, zoom, rat-a-tat!" They all nodded in understanding and then they would talk to me. I was not a pilot.

Having gotten a taste of salesmanship, my next job was with a company that shall remain nameless but which had a fantastic sales training course. Ultimately I was hired by one of my distributors, who made me an offer in which part of the deal was that I would be sales manager with the right to take off any time I wished for as long as I wished, just so long as the shop was full of work. That arrangement made it possible

for me to conform to ships' schedules and take a few relief radio operator jobs and further fulfill my hobby.

This brings back to mind one more exciting event that I can not forget. I was on the new Santa Maria at sea one night when the astronauts made their first landing on the moon. This ship carried five radio operators, and I was assigned to copy the press which would go into the ship's newspaper. The chief operator had a dim view of relief operators. To make matters worse, when I sat down at the typewriter, it would not work. Then the press started coming for the most important event in history. The chief operator began yelling, shouting, and screaming at me to start copying. I struggled with the typewriter but no go. It was stuck somehow.

"He wanted to know if I could provide a pair of radio phone sets that would operate duplex like a telephone and not push-to-talk. At that time there was no such portable device."

Then in desperation I stood up and said, "You fix it!" Big shot that he was, it took him about 20 minutes to get it working. This was a disaster but our guardian angel was there to help us. One of the other operators had a friend who was on watch at WSL that night, so this operator called his friend and asked him to repeat the entire news broadcast. The fellow did it. His friend cranked up one of their other transmitters that had been idle and did the job for us.

When the War was over and everyone went skiing, I joined the Ski Club of New Jersey. This club was one of the top ski clubs in the country, specializing in downhill racing. It must have been a fluke. I was not a downhill racer but a recreation skier. One of the gentle kind. This association turned out to be one with the nicest group of people I have ever known. On one of

my trips to the snow country of Vermont, I rode up there with my friend Eddie Gruenewald. The roads were icy and Eddie was a 35-mph man, so we got to the farmhouse where we were to stay rather late, around midnight. I was so tired I went right to bed in what must have been a store room and did not pay attention to my surroundings. At about dawn I awakened and saw two full sized angels staring down at me. How did I get to Heaven? I don't remember having an auto accident on the ride up. Then I rolled over and went to sleep. Some time later I awakened and there was more light. I discovered that the room was full of religious objects. The two angels were actually white marble statues with about four-foot wing spans. What a relief.

Shortly after joining I was approached by the fellow in charge of timing the races. He wanted to know if I could provide a pair of radio phone sets that would operate duplex like a telephone and not push-to-talk. At that time there was no such portable device. He wanted to use them to replace the telephone line that he had to run from the top of the mountain to the bottom every time the club moved to a new mountain to race. At my own considerable expense I built two such units working in the novice portion of the 6 meter band. Then I trained several members to get their novice licenses and we were off and running.

My second adventure into ski club communications was an exciting one. Sometimes the club had difficulty finding out what the snow conditions were for weekend skiing at the different slopes. Consequently I set up a snow information collecting system. I made arrangements with a dozen amateur radiophone stations, each near a ski slope. Then I had printed up a large chart. Across the top there were slots in which different snow conditions were indicated. On the vertical side the name of each ski slope was listed. The Hams would check on the snow conditions at each resort and radio them to me on 80 meter phone starting at 7:00 p.m. on Thursday nights. At 8:00 p.m. I would radiophone all of the collected reports to a station in Newburgh, New York. That station operator would take his marked up chart over to a local diner on route 9 W. Here it would be posted on the wall. That diner was a normal stopover

place for skiers to have a cup of coffee on their trip north on Friday nights. Some members of the Ski Club of New Jersey made it a practice to listen in on my Thursday night transmissions and get advance information. This service came to an end after three years when commercial broadcasts competed and when the New York State Thruway opened and everybody bypassed route 9 W. The point-to-point duplex walkie talkie program also ended in three years when citizens band radios became available, followed up by cellular phones.

After World War Two, while on the Vermont ski slopes, I became acquainted with a lady who told me a startling story. She claimed that during the War, her mother, who was a Nazi, also became a traitor to the Allied cause. Her mother bought a dialysis machine and converted it into a radio transmitter. With it she transmitted ship movements to German submarines operating off our Atlantic coast. She obtained the information from German and Italian stevedores loading our ships. My lady friend said when that happened, she moved away from home fast.

"Her mother bought a dialysis machine and converted it into a radio transmitter. With it she transmitted ship movements to German submarines operating off our Atlantic coast."

It so happened that the federal government established a listening post next to the George Washington Bridge on the south side at what had been a German beer garden before the War. It also happened that I lived four miles west of the bridge; this woman lived two or three miles further west of me. The listening post never caught her. A member of our radio club claimed to have been one of the operators at that listening post, which is how I know it existed.

Now let me tell you about a fantastic radio club that met its demise because of kids who expressed their rights when actually they did not

have any. This was the Northern New Jersey Amateur Radio Association. It was at the beginning when kids thought they had "rights" to everything. The Club had many very important people in the radio and television world: vice presidents, chief engineers, etc. Eventually many of the important people died off or retired and moved away. Then the kids disrupted so many meetings that all other responsible people left.

At one time, for a period of time, we now had the famous Earl Thomas, W2MM, as our president. During his tenure we ran the most terrific field day exercise. We held our club meetings in the Red Cross building in Englewood, New Jersey, so we invited the Red Cross to join us in our field day emergency training exercise, and they did.

This was a field day par excellence. It was super! Our site for this outdoor activity was in Alpine, New Jersey, located about five miles north of the George Washington Bridge. The actual field site was on ground between the TV tower that had been erected by Major Armstrong, the famous inventor, and the edge of the palisades cliff. The land had all been bulldozed to prepare it for starting construction on the New York State Parkway section, to be called the Palisades Parkway. We were told that originally the Ringling Brothers had an estate there. We got government permission to occupy that spot for one weekend.

We had a five-station encampment consisting of two CW stations and three phone stations. Then there were other tents for other services, such as resting, storage of supplies, etc.

A large number of ladies showed up from the Red Cross. This was to be their first experience serving food around the clock on a simulated emergency field exercise. In a disaster this would have been their job. After all, they were the Red Cross. They did a swell job of cooking hot dogs and hamburgers, serving drinks and other refreshments, and cleaning up pots and pans well into the night and the following day. The next year we did not get any volunteers. They said it was work.

"My neighbor went around the neighborhood, telling everyone how important I was because even CBS went off the air in order to permit me to transmit. After I straightened him out, I put a filter on his antenna, and the problem was solved."

This contest was organized like a military operation. Each person was assigned to one or two tasks. We had about 50 Hams participating, and I kept waiting to be assigned as a CW operator on one of the shifts at the 40 meter station.

Finally my assignment came. I was assigned to be in charge of the two portable toilets, to keep them clean, and shovel over the residue upon leaving. Normally I would think someone did not like me, but actually I really believed it was just my luck. I protested the assignment, stating that I had higher seniority than some of the other guys. I was told that all assignments had been made and that was it. My answer to that was, "Forget it, I just won't bother to show up."

To make a long story short, they needed skilled CW operators, particularly to man the early morning shifts. In scene two I was put on the late night/early morning shift on 40 meters CW. The payoff came at the end of the exercise as the encampment was dismantled and I was leaving for home. I observed the Ham who made the assignments doing the toilet job himself. The thought came to me that it could have been worse: it could have been me.

The esprit de corps was high, and we had a very successful event. One member showed up with a World War Two barrage balloon with an 800' length of stranded wire attached to it. It was for use on 2 meters. During a bright, sunny day with only one or two clouds in the sky, we got a big static charge off of it. Now we knew what Benjamin Franklin felt when he tried the same stunt.

Another fellow who was an antenna engineer for AT&T designed a 32-element, 2-meter beam antenna for our club contest. The upshot of the

whole program was that we won first place for five station category with 64,000 contacts. The only problem was that the fellow in charge of sending in the score to ARRL was so tired when he went home to go to bed that he forgot to submit it. Our first place evaporated.

Two of my friends, Tom and Charlie, were radio Hams and skiers. We joined a group from the Ski Club of New Jersey when they took a vacation in Russia. Before we went, Tom had a pleasant experience. One day he looked out of his window and saw a large radio antenna mounted on the front lawn of a new neighbor across the street. At first he was horrified to think of all the interference he was going to get, but his guardian angel took care of that. A few days later there was a full-page story with pictures of his new neighbor in the local newspaper. It turned out that the neighbor was a new Ham with a big mouth and a lot of money invested in very deluxe equipment. He belonged to the "no code crowd." Not long afterwards, the new Ham went away for a weekend. When he returned home, the room that was his radio shack was entirely empty. Some rugged individualist had liberated it. Now the three of us joined the group as mentioned above, and we all went on our merry way to Russia. I had been warned by my travel agent that a vacation in Russia is not a vacation but rather an experience, and so it was.

On the flight over, Tom, who was a brilliant engineer but lacking in some other respects, called out from his window seat, "There it is!" I asked, "There what is?" His answer was, "Right where the Ice Patrol said." The iceberg had been reported the day before. One of Tom's hobbies was to copy the Ice Patrol's reports of locations sent on Sunday mornings from NSS. He was just checking to see how accurate they were.

When we arrived in Moscow we were required to stay at a brand new hotel that was built to accommodate tourists only. Everyone was assigned to a single room with a bunk bed, so there was no mixed company partying. They believed in law and order.

Upon arriving we all entered a very large elevator to go upstairs. It was crowded and when the door closed to go up, we went down slowly and the lights went out. There we were, all packed in nice and tight in complete darkness, except for expressions of frustration. There was a telephone but it did not work. Then about 15 minutes later the elevator began to move up very slowly. When it stopped at the first floor, the lights came on and there was a tremendous swoosh as everyone evacuated in a hurry. We were told, "The elevator does that." It seems it never occurred to anyone to fix it.

Then we were assigned to individual rooms. Everyone except Elizabeth, my future wife, was assigned to rooms on the third floor. She went alone to the tenth floor. She was frightened beyond belief. Here she was, locked in a strange room in a foreign country all night with no way to communicate with the others. You see, the telephone system was screwed up. I

The first thing the desk clerk told me was, "Don't be afraid. The hotel sways a little when a train goes by. Oh incidentally, at night a train goes by every 11 minutes."

was in room 321 and Charlie was next door in room 322. In order to telephone from 322 to 321 you had to read the instruction book, which did have some explanation in English. The instructions said that room 321 could be dialed from 322 by dialing 689, not 321.

Charlie's expertise in using this system paid off the following morning when I received a telephone SOS call from him. He was locked in his room because the door was warped and he absolutely could not open it, although he was a very strong man. He asked me to come to his door and push while he pulled. We finally got it open and freed him.

Another feature of this brand new hotel was the toilet. It was a reminder of a bygone era, somewhere in the 19th century. The water tank was located close to the ceiling with a long pipe leading down to the toilet bowl. The purpose

was to increase the water pressure. That type was invented in the 19th century by Sir Thomas Crapper, from whom the toilet got its name.

Now as a matter of safety, it was really safe. At each floor across from the elevator they had a reception desk manned by a large, strong, Russian woman who was built like a battleship. You had to register, sign in, and get the key to your room. Upon leaving you had to turn in your key and sign out. No hanky-panky there.

Our next adventure was to walk over to visit the American embassy. It was evidently under Russian control, because it was being guarded by two armed Russian soldiers at the front door. They would not admit us Americans. We were told to go downstairs in the back and visit a room that was reserved for U.S. marines. We did but we never saw any U.S. marines.

Upon arriving home, all the New York newspapers were running big stories about how the Marines and other embassy personnel were routinely sleeping with Russian women in the embassy and the women had free run of the place. All of this activity was followed by a Congressional investigation, which exonerated everyone except one U.S. marine, who must have been low man on the totem pole. He got sentenced to a year in prison and was discharged from the Marines. He was a young man who had grown up on an Indian reservation.

When the investigation was over, the newspapers disclosed that the American embassy in Moscow was not large enough and that the U.S. government was going to build a larger one. Then the newspapers reported that Washington officials were going to save taxpayers money by hiring Russian labor, who would be less expensive than if the job were done by Americans. If you don't believe me, you can check the record in the newspapers of that time. It is all there. When the new embassy was nearly complete at a cost of \$100 million, American inspectors discovered that there were microphones buried all over the place in the concrete. The embassy was declared unusable and was abandoned. Another one was built using American labor.

Now we were all home again and pursuing our daily lives. One Saturday night I was on the air on 80 meters with my one-kilowatt AM phone transmitter when an unusual event took place at my neighbor's house next door. They were having a party and one of the young girls went down in the basement to use the toilet where it was quiet. Suddenly a voice came out of the toilet and she fled upstairs in fear and told her mother there was a ghost downstairs. The mother investigated and said, "Why, that's Arthur next door!"

When I mentioned this event at the next radio club meeting, Earl Thomas, W2MM, confirmed that it could happen because some years earlier

"This was more thrilling than any movie. This was the real thing. This was America roaring by to meet the enemy. I was never so thrilled with a spirit of patriotism as at that moment..."

back on the farm it happened to him. He explained that old rusty pipe joints develop rust, which acts as a rectifier. With the pipes acting as an antenna, an audio signal is produced.

In the 1950s with the introduction of television on a new and wide scale, many of the TV sets were of primitive design and were susceptible to interference. This situation caused me to be a Very Important Person, or VIP, briefly in my neighborhood. I had joined the amateur radio civil defense network operating with about 50 volunteers in our area when one night a neighbor brought home a new TV set. At that time the net control station called me and I answered on 10 meters, saying, "W2ADB reporting, no traffic, over and out."

During that brief period, my neighbor's screen went blank and my voice came in loud and clear. My neighbor went around the neighborhood, telling everyone how important I was because even CBS went off the air in order to permit me to transmit. After I straightened him out, I put a filter on his antenna, and the problem was solved.

When I could not get a relief radio operator job during some summer vacations, I loved ships so much that I went as a paying passenger on cruise ships. One summer I was walking along the deck of the SS Italia when I was approached by two ladies who were substantially older than I. One asked me if she could ask me a personal question. I answered "sure." Then the question: "Are you single?" I answered, "Yes, why do you ask?" The lady turned to her friend and said, "You see, Sadie, I was right." Then she told me that all the men on the ship had a worried look and that I was the happiest man aboard. I happily thanked them and moved on.

At the risk of being verbose, I must tell about an event that involved rugged individualists and patriotism of the first order. It was during the Christmas season in 1943 when I paid a visit to the Scintilla Magneto Division of Bendix Corporation at Sidney, New York for an inspection trip. I arrived in the early evening, and my host arranged for me to stay at a hotel that was then over 100 years old. It was a wooden building of three floors, and I was assigned to the top floor. It was located directly alongside 11 sets of railroad tracks and facing a main street that crossed the tracks. It was a main thoroughfare. This hotel could have been used for the television show "Gunsmoke," and it would have fit right in.

The first thing the desk clerk told me was, "Don't be afraid. The hotel sways a little when a train goes by. Oh incidentally, at night a train goes by every 11 minutes." The room was bare, and it had a 1-1/2" diameter coiled up rope anchored to the floor. That was a fire escape. I assume they never assigned ladies to the third floor.

It was a beautiful night with snow on the ground and all the colored lights. Then it happened. It had gotten dark, and off in the distance a train was coming really fast with its whistle blowing for the crossing, black smoke mixed with steam, and an occasional burst of flame pouring forth.

I opened the window and looked out to the left, and it was beautiful to see. There were three of the largest steam locomotives ever built, pulling a train two miles long with two of the same kind

of engines pushing at the rear. On the train there were flat cars with tanks, jeeps, cannons, and other military supplies. There were also some box cars to make it complete.

These locomotives weighed 800 tons each, so you know they were massive. The steam whistle began blowing when the train was about a mile away and stayed on steadily until the first engine crossed the intersection. The Doppler effect of the whistle was beautiful as it passed by.

This was more thrilling than any movie. This was the real thing. This was America roaring by to meet the enemy. I was never so thrilled with a spirit of patriotism as at that moment, and I saluted the engineer of the first engine as he passed me by while holding down the rope that kept the whistle blowing.

Incidentally, the top floor swayed about five inches outward, then back to the center, then five inches to the other side for an approximate travel of ten inches. I am not exaggerating one bit.

Although the chandelier swung furiously, any thought of fear of this hotel collapsing was overcome by my intense feeling of patriotism at the show I was seeing. The desk clerk was right. One of these monsters went by every 11 minutes all night. ■



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Random Recollections of an Old Ham

A Journalistic History of The Life and Times in Amateur Radio of George Hart, W1NJM

by George Hart, W1NJM

The rest of the detachment were maintenance soldiers, drivers, clerks. There were no civilians. I was the only buck private (non-striper) in the entire outfit but I was slightly favored because of my amateur radio background and reputation. Surprisingly enough, this favoritism seemed not the slightest resented by anyone in the detachment. Vince Dawson assured me I would not be a buck for long. I felt in my element. Word got around the headquarters and the town that I was aboard, and the local amateur radio club invited me to a meeting, held at a local restaurant, at which I was the featured speaker and during which I consorted with many officers from Conas, which was what they called AACs headquarters. I, a buck private, the lowest rank in the Army. It must have been unprecedented, an outrageous fraternalism which would not ordinarily have been countenanced. I even got a write-up in the Asheville daily newspaper. I lived at Newbridge post, worked at City Building or one of the outlying sites during the day, made many friends. I wasn't kidding myself. I was only a buck private and maintained a low profile.

The time passed. I got along well with my bunkmates at Newbridge, became quite friendly with Ralph Porazzo as we worked together, usually at the transmitting site where a row of transmitters and a field of antennas was set up to maintain contact with a similar setup in Philadelphia. As I recall (my recollections are not always accurate) there were four fixed-frequency T4FRC amplifiers, built by a Kansas City firm (not Wilcox) with a common power supply so any of the four could be operated singly; also, a common FSK exciter controlled from the City Building nine miles away, I presume by a wire line supplied by the telephone company. I don't remember the tube lineups, but each amplifier was capable of about 400 watts. There was also a KW-3 ampli-

fier using push-pull 450THs, capable of 3000 watts. The KW-3 was used only when extra power was needed to make the Philadelphia contact. This was seldom, because when conditions were normal contact could easily be made with one of the 400-watt units, but when aurora dominated the spectrum no amount of power would get us through.

Lt. Dawson was very enthusiastic about RTTY, convinced that it was the coming mode for record communication. I, always the CW man, expressed skepticism. One day, when aurora conditions were severe and the teletype printers printed nothing but gibberish, I plugged my "bug" into the keying line in the basement of the City Building and tried to contact the Philadelphia end by CW. Somewhat to my surprise, the call was answered by the operator in Philadelphia. Signals were weak and fluttery, but we exchanged reports and instructions successfully, whereas RTTY was completely useless. I considered the test a reinforcement of my conviction that CW could accomplish communication when no other mode could do so. Vince, who was not at all adept at CW, was not impressed. He was a very stubborn young man, several years younger than I and almost 20 years younger than Sgt. Broderick, but I have never met a more friendly and outgoing person. Everybody liked him.

In an unusual moment of self-confidence I once bragged to Sgt. Broderick that I could send Morse Code at 45 WPM on my "bug." He expressed skepticism and said I would have to prove it, so we set up a test, Broderick supplying the text and the stopwatch.

When he handed me the text I discovered it was 5-letter code groups. To those not

skilled at Morse Code (a big majority of amateurs today) I should explain that the code is deliberately designed so that the most-used letters in the English language are the shortest in code language; that is, for example, the most-used letter, E, is a single dit. The second most-used, T, is a single dah. This means that words-per-minute (WPM) are higher in plain English text than in 5-letter random groups. When I bragged to Broderick that I could send 45 WPM I meant plain language, not 5-letter groups. However, I was confident that I could do 45 WPM even in crypto, so I slid the weight on my Vibroplex key up for maximum speed and started sending. Broderick was a good CW man himself. I made a few mistakes and I'm sure he noticed them but he said nothing about this. At the end of a minute we counted the groups I had sent. There were only 32 of them. I was appalled, but Tom only laughed. He cautioned me about making claims I could not live up to. I claimed he had tricked me. I never realized there was that much difference between plain text and random 5-letter groups. We had bet ten dollars, but Tom refused to collect. When I insisted, he accepted it and donated it to the Newbridge slush fund, used to purchase luxury items for the barracks not provided by the Army.

It was almost three months after my arrival at Conas that Col. Farman returned from his worldwide inspection trip. About a week later I was summoned to his office on the second floor of the City Building, much to the astonishment of everybody except Lt. Dawson and Sgt. Broderick. A buck private summoned to the Old Man's office? Ridiculous! But there I was, feeling very uncomfortable in the presence of the CO of all AACS, along with Capt. Safran, head of the Plans Division, A-3, of which the RTTY training detachment was a part. With the war apparently well in hand. Col. Farman was interested in setting up a postwar communications reserve to be the equivalent in the proposed new Air Force to the Army's Signal Corps reserve. He wondered if I would do some preliminary work on it, saying he felt I was well qualified in view of my connection with ARRL and my extensive amateur radio experience. Capt. Safran showed extreme skepticism, saying there were too many ongoing war plans to make room for

a postwar reserve program in his division. The colonel agreed to an extent, said the work would have to be done unofficially, that I would still officially be working in the RTTY detachment but suggested that some time could be devoted by me for getting up a prospectus. The captain reluctantly agreed, but I could easily see that he had not an iota of enthusiasm for the project. Col. Farman took an attitude of appreciation for Capt Safran's prospective cooperation and dismissed him.

I was alone with the Big Boss. He leaned back in his swivel chair, put his feet on the big mahogany desk, lit a cigar and told me to relax. We were a couple of hams together. He told me he had read about my departure from the League and had kept track of my progress through basic, and when I had been assigned to Atlanta he pulled some strings at the Pentagon to have me assigned to AACS. The AACS reserve was a pet personal project and he felt I was just the man to handle it, but he couldn't give it to

"The AACS reserve was a pet personal project and he felt I was just the man to handle it, but he couldn't give it to me as an official assignment. "

me as an official assignment. He said if I agreed to tackle it he would do everything he could to supply me with information, stenographic and clerical assistance and facilities, whatever I needed to get the job on track.

It sounded to me like a daunting project. As a buck private I would have no "clout" whatsoever. Everything I needed I would have to get on his authority, and that "unofficially." I saw a great many obstacles to the extent of impossibility, laid them before him. He was quite sympathetic, said he realized I would be working with people much superior in rank, that he would boost me up the noncom ladder as fast as he could.

"I'd get you a commission if I could," he said, "but the only way I could do that would

be to send you to Officer Candidate School. The only one still operating is for administrative officers, in San Antonio. It's a four-month course now. By the time you got out of there it would be - let's see - December. I'd hoped to get started on the project before then. Right now, in fact."

I suggested he might find someone better qualified than I to handle it from among his officers. "There's no one better qualified," he said. "I've read your stuff in QST and I'm convinced you're the man for the job." I had no such confidence, but I admitted I'd like to tackle it. We finally agreed I would have to "sweat out" OCS and wait until I had my commission before the project could get under way.

"Sweat out" was the right term. I had no idea what I was in for. Vince Dawson was an OCS graduate and tried to give me some idea of

"So I committed the worst breach of military etiquette imaginable. I went "across channels" and wrote a personal letter to Col. Farman explaining my situation..."

what went on there, but I discounted most of it as exaggeration. Eventually I found, quite the contrary, that he had actually understated the pressure I would be subjected to. My five months (I was "washed back" one month) at administrative OCS was by far the most grueling period of my entire Army career. It is covered in quite some detail in my book "Officers, Dismissed!" pretty much as it actually occurred, in a chapter of that book with the same title. I will forego repeating the 150-or-so pages and let the reader consult the book if he is interested. Copies were given to ARRL headquarters in Newington and to the Lucy Robbins Welles Library in Newington. The book has not been published commercially. It was revised in 2000 and two copies were loose-leaf bound. The revision was mainly to make it more readable; the basic theme did not change.

After I graduated from OCS I was sent, instead of back to Asheville as I had hoped and expected, to the Army Air Forces Tactical Center in Orlando, Fla., where I was assigned as adjutant to a tactical radar squadron, a desk job having nothing whatever to do with communications. My CO, it turned out, was a major by the name of Wilson, a licensed ham from California; but my hopes for some sympathy with my wish to go back to Asheville were dashed when Major Wilson, although friendly enough, said he badly needed a new adjutant and that I was stuck right there. I had no stomach for it, wanted at least to get back into communications, but AAFTAC was renowned for keeping its personnel and there seemed little chance. So I committed the worst breach of military etiquette imaginable. I went "across channels" and wrote a personal letter to Col. Farman explaining my situation, reminding him of his postwar plans for AACCS and saying I now had my commission and was eager to work on the project if he had not given it to someone else - but that I was a "prisoner" at AAFTAC and saw no way to get out. I took this step because I remembered Col. Farman's penchant for cutting across channels himself.

It worked. The colonel did not answer my letter, but a week later orders came down from the Pentagon to ship me to Asheville without delay. Major Wilson was livid. He called me into his office (in a tent adjacent to the hangars and landing strip at Pinecastle Army Air Force Base), accused me of conniving, gave me the worst "chewing out" of my Army career, threatened me with dire consequences if ever our paths crossed again, and curtly dismissed me. My career at AAFTAC lasted only a couple of weeks. The main base near Orlando was very nice, but the living facilities at Pinecastle were somewhat primitive and I lost no time getting out of there.

Back at Conas I found that Col. Farman was again on an inspection trip and was not expected back for several weeks. No one seemed to know why I had been ordered back, but apparently the colonel had left word that I was to be assigned to the Plans Division of A-3 as deputy QIC of the RTTY Training Detachment. Lt. Dawson and Sgt Broderick were still there, along

with "Poggy" Porazzo and most of the other personnel I had worked with previously as a buck private. Vince Dawson was especially delighted because he was seeking a transfer to Texas and now had someone to replace him at Conas. I dropped in on the detachment even before I reported to Capt. Safran, who was still head of the Plans Division. When I finally did report to Safran in his third floor office in the City Building, there as deputy CO was Lt. Jack Fahy. I first met Jack at OCS, where he was a second lieutenant, a "tack" officer and instructor in voice of command. I hated him with a passion. I felt he was a martinet, a conceited prig and an all-around bastard. He had flunked me in voice of command, which was a bad mark against me when I came up for review by the Academic Board. Jack sat on this board, which wound up recommending my dismissal. In desperation, I had appealed to a higher board and by dint of an eloquence I didn't know I had, got the decision reversed, although I was "washed back" a month and therefore spent five months at OCS instead of the usual four. "Ninety-day wonders," at that stage of the war, normally took 120 days. Thus, I graduated in late December of 1944 and was awarded my commission, when I should have graduated in late November.

So here I was, back where I wanted to be, thrown in with three superiors one of whom I hated with a passion and one, the CO, not of my favorite people. But the Jack Fahy of Conas was a far different person from the stiff, formal, polished Lt. Fahy I had encountered at OCS. He greeted me warmly, asked me to forget all about OCS so we could work together in AACS Plans. Much to my astonishment, he was liked by almost everybody at AACS, and as he introduced me to the people in the division he seemed warm and personable, in sharp contrast to the Lt. Fahy I had known and feared and hated at OCS. I had trouble dealing with it at first, but when he invited me to his apartment in West Asheville to have Sunday dinner with his wife and year-old daughter the ice completely melted. His wife, Anne, was a most gracious, hospitable and pretty girl and little Judy a sweetheart. Jack became a close friend and associate, perhaps the closest in my entire Army career,

such as it was - but like all such associations, we never met again after the war ended. There followed a period of relative contentment which lasted from February of 1945 until January of 1946. Vince Dawson went to Texas as planned, but our parting was not serene due to a wrangle over my refusal to sign a release of responsibility until a complete inventory was completed. Vince was not as close a friend as Jack Fahy, but I later regretted my stubbornness. It delayed his departure for about a week. I finally signed the release before the inventory was complete, even though a few minor pieces of equipment were missing. There were no repercussions, but I felt I had lost a friend.

Winter in Asheville was no picnic, weatherwise. The previous summer had been delightful, but during February and March I suffered one head cold after another as wet snow fell and the surrounding hills whitened. I lived at the YMCA with a Lt. Peach but never really got to know him because he was hardly ever there. I did make many friends, however, among the many hams at the headquarters. Sad to say, my memory of their calls and first names, even their last names, is often missing or inaccurate, but their persons are strongly imbedded. In addition to those already mentioned, there was Major Ronnie Martin, W6ZF, who was deputy chief of the Frequencies Division of A-3 under Lt-Col. Diegert, who I believe was also a ham. Then there was Lt.-Col. Paul Oscanyan, he of the thick glasses and strict military mannerisms until you got to know him. A young captain who discounted my alleged code proficiency and frequently offered to "get on a circuit" with me. A captain in A-1 who helped me get a promotion while I was at Conas, who knew Wamer and Handy. Several of my RTTY colleagues, in addition to Dawson, Broderick and Porazzo, also held ham tickets. There are many more whom I have forgotten entirely except that they existed. The place was "crawling" with amateur radio licensees and once in a while some of us would get together for a bull session and relive pre-war experiences when we were all on the air. Off-duty fraternization between officers and enlisted men was quite common in AACS, and even during duty hours the segregation was not emphasized except by old veterans such as Sgt.

Broderick. At the City Building there were probably more officers than enlisted men and nearly all the latter were noncoms. Still, the line of command seemed to suffer not at all from this apparent lack of discipline. It was just that there was less saluting, less "sirring" than in most Army installations.. Among the many licensed hams the atmosphere resembled a continuous "hamfest."

The end of the war with the surrender of Japan in August of 1945 brought about the return of W1AW to the air. The Army was still occupying most of the former amateur frequency bands but appeared ready to relinquish them rapidly, and W1AW would keep the ham radio world advised on progress being made. I borrowed an SX-28 Hallicrafters receiver from our basement shop in the City Building and set it up in the front room of our little brick abode on Carroll Ave., and heard the first post-war transmission from W1AW. It had special significance to me as a former W1AW operator and then Acting CM who had visited the station many times during the severe winters of 1942-3 and 1943-4 to assess the condition of the building and equipment, which stood heatless and unused from January 1942 until mid-1945 when preparations started to get it back on the air. I could imagine the work that had to be done to accomplish this. But the signal was loud and clear and prompted in me an emotional reaction contemplating how soon I could get back into civilian life and work at ARRL headquarters.

Unfortunately, there seemed to be no big hurry about this. Although hostilities had ceased we remained on a national emergency (war) basis. I continued my work on the AACS postwar reserve, still QIC of the RTTY detachment and under the command of / Capt, Safran in the Plans Division who resented my favorite position with "the old man," who had now achieved the rank of brigadier general. The work was designated AACS Plan 30. I have a copy of it, sent at my request by Col. Neal of AACS A-3. The Plan had been classified restricted, but when the war ended it was declassified. By the late fall of 1945 it was finished and bucked to the Pentagon under Gen. Farman's endorsement for immediate action. It had been a lot of work, quite a bit

of it on my own (off-duty) time, but the general was highly pleased. My own assessment was a bit short of that< for I had some idea of the difficulties involved in implementing it. It turned out I was right Although it was one of the documents considered in the eventual formation of the Military Affiliate Radio System (I deplored the removal of the word "amateur" from the name), the ultimate MARS organization little resembled the one I had visualized in Plan 30. But that's another story entirely.

"The Army was still occupying most of the former amateur frequency bands but appeared ready to relinquish them rapidly, and W1AW would keep the ham radio world advised on progress being made."

Shortly after the Japanese surrender rumors began to fly about a move of CONAS away from Asheville. The city wanted its City Hall back. I hoped the rumors weren't true, but it turned out they were. The RTTY orientation school was closed, the detachment's personnel reassigned, Louise and I faced another disruption in our lives. The Army normally moves ponderously, but this time the move got under way and proceeded rapidly. The new location was to be to Langley Reld near Hampton, Va., where I was to find a totally different kind of Army existence. Louise and I were determined to stay together if possible, and so when my orders came out assigning me to the Plans Division of A-3 at Langley under a Major Almand I wangled a ride on a DC-4 cargo plane carrying a full load of supplies and several other transferees. We sat on bucket seats fastened to the fuselage, a far cry from the relative comfort of commercial passenger planes even then; but the flight took only an hour or so. Upon deplaning at Langley I sought out the adjutant and checked in, then got an assignment to living quarters on the base in a BOQ, which was a ramshackle old house probably as old as or older than the Army base itself. I reported to Major Almand and was told the division was still in moving stages and there was nothing for me to do. He was a gruff man probably in his late 30's. When I told him I hoped to move my family to the area he suggested I con-

sult the housing office in A-1 to get a list of available accommodations in the nearby towns.

Thus began the long, weary search. I must have visited 20 residences in nearby Hampton, Phoebus, Buckroe Beach and Newport News using buses, taxis and shoe leather before I found, strictly by accident, a place in Hampton not on the list. It was a very nice little apartment atop a garage on Algonquin Rd, just a short distance from the waterfront overlooking Hampton Roads. It was owned by an elderly couple living on a disability pension from the ship-building company nearby. The Gearharts received me cordially, but said they could not possibly rent us the apartment with a baby and a dog. The cordiality nevertheless remained and I spent the evening there, playing checkers with Old Man Gearhart. Later I showed their 15-year-old grandson how to field strip and care for a .45 automatic that had been left by a former tenant, gave him a lecture on safety precautions. The Gearharts were so pleased with me that they decided to rent us the apartment anyway. Mrs. Gearhart wanted me to take the .45 automatic off their hands, but when I saw Jason's face fall I declined, and Mr. Gearhart said he was sure, after my talk with Jason, that the boy would be careful.

"I took great joy in occasionally operating Dwight's little transmitter, ate irregularly, slept irregularly, drank too much, most of the time was lonely and miserable."

I made several new friends at Langley, two of whom were hams, but I cannot remember either their names or calls. One was a young officer, a first lieutenant from Hawaii whose call may have been K6UTL. He lived in the same BOQ as I and I discovered him one lonely evening when I heard code emanating from somewhere in the building. I went to investigate and found he had set up his ham station in the BOQ and was operating on 10 meters with an 807 transmitter running about 50 watts, exclusively on CW. I'll call him Dwight. I didn't even know that 10 meters had been opened to amateurs. This was in early

1946, a node in the sunspot cycle, and 10 meters was open all day and most of the night. Dwight was working all over the world with his homebrew 50-watt blooper and homebrew regenerative receiver. He was big and tall and very outgoing, said he had been married five years to a girl in Hawaii who was half Hawaiian and half Portuguese and that she was "an ample woman, very prolific. Every time I look at her she gets pregnant. I don't even write to her for fear she'll get pregnant from my letters."

Dwight became a very fast friend. He was a first lieutenant, like myself, assigned, I seem to recall, as liaison officer to the National Advisory Committee on Aeronautics, which, years later, became NASA. He was 25 years old, a veritable fireball who owned an Indian motorcycle and rampaged around the base and surrounding towns in it, to the consternation of the MP's and local police forces. Dwight, another first lieutenant and I went out on several binges together during the month I was stationed at Langley before I could go back and get Louise and Freddy and our little dog. I took great joy in occasionally operating Dwight's little transmitter, ate irregularly, slept irregularly, drank too much, most of the time was lonely and miserable. When I finally got established with the Gearharts I wangled another flight, this time on General Farman's private plane, back to Asheville. It was mid-January, there was snow on the ground in Asheville, Freddy and Louise were suffering from lack of heat in the little house. Our furnace burned soft coal and rationing made it very hard to get, and this problem was made worse when heavy rains had caused our basement to flood. Louise was frantically glad to see me, and the day after I arrived we packed our meager belongings into the Chevy and set out for Langley. It was a horrendous trip. We arrived in Hampton after 1 a.m. Freddy cried when I carried him upstairs. He was wet and cross, Louise and I both exhausted; and who should show up but Mrs. Gearhart in a robe, bringing us hot coffee and a snack, then directing me to the attic where was stored a crib that Jason had used when he was small. We set it up, cleaned Freddy up and deposited him in it, got ourselves settled. We sighingly looked forward to a peaceful and relaxing time with the Gearharts in Hampton.

But it was not to be. Two weeks later I was told by Major Almand that I was about to be shipped overseas. When I dismayingly asked when, he shrugged. "Any time, now," he said. "All I know is that I can't give you a long-term assignment because you're on the list." It sounded to me like the equivalent of being on a list for execution without a date. I could get no further information, except that I was to hold myself in readiness for immediate overseas assignment. Plan 30 was finished and was at the Pentagon, probably in altered form as it went up the line,

"The date was very boring.. DeWitt and the two girls were boring. And I was the most boring and bored of all. My overseas shipping orders didn't come out until late March (1946). I was so angry!"

maybe without my name on it. I had visions of leaving Louise suddenly to fend for herself in a strange environment, with Freddy to take care of alone. So, after discussion, we decided she should immediately go back to Coudersport and live with her mother and sister in their little apartment. I pleaded my case before my superiors and was able to get a nine-day leave, subject to immediate cancellation if my orders came out. Mrs. Gearhart, although upset, was wonderful about it. She even refunded half the money I had paid her for a month's rent in advance. They had us for dinner the night before we left, after she and Jason had helped us get packed, and I swear there were tears in her eyes the next morning as, bright and early, we took off in our overloaded little Chevy coupe. The world is full of nice people, but the Gearharts were among the nicest.

I won't go on with this narrative in detail because most of it has nothing to do with ham radio. After getting my little family reestablished in Coudersport I returned to Langley and the BOQ. My friend Dwight was still there and, along with our non-ham friend, we went out on several drunken binges. Operation of his diminutive ham station continued on a less-frequent basis. I also visited the Virginia SCM, who lived

in Newport News (think his call was W3AKN, but I don't remember his name), along with a captain at Langley who was also a ham and with whom I had become friendly. Let's call him DeWitt. Later I went on a blind date with Capt. DeWitt and his Phoebe girl friend. DeWitt was an older man, in his early forties, a bachelor. He worked in A-1 of AACCS. His girl was a receptionist at a swanky restaurant in Hampton and the "girl" I went out with was a friend of hers. The date was very boring.. DeWitt and the two girls were boring. And I was the most boring and bored of all. My overseas shipping orders didn't come out until late March (1946). I was so angry! I could have spent this time, from January through most of March) with Louise and Freddy in our garage apartment in Hampton. Although the fighting part of the war was over, we were

"No one in my circle could copy the code, so I informed them when we would depart but did not reveal how I knew. When we did depart precisely as I had "predicted" I was pressured to reveal my source and mistakenly did so."

still under a national emergency situation, so the orders did not reveal my estimation except for climate, "HH," (hot and humid). This meant somewhere in the South Pacific, in all probability. I had visions of fever, jungle rot, snakes, and being so far away from my loved ones, so I requested a change of climate and was surprised when it was granted. The new climate was "CWW" (cold, wet and windy), probably Europe.

I traveled, with three AACCS companions, to New York where we were ordered aboard the S.S. General Anderson, a U.S. Navy transport. It was a fairly modern vessel fitted to carry 2000 troops. Two weeks later we found ourselves in Wiesbaden, Germany, where HQ of the AACCS Fifth Wing was located. I'll omit the details of the trip to New York, the overseas voyage and our reception in France. The whole experience was an example of the Army's "hurry up and wait" complexion. I waited three months at

Langley before my orders came out, we waited three days at Fort Hamilton in Brooklyn before we were assigned to a ship, spent 7 days on the ship. Once we got to Le Havre and were received at Camp Philip Morris things moved a little faster. We deliberately "missed" our train in Paris so we could take a day to look around, and when we arrived in Wiesbaden we were assigned separate billets in the town. It is all covered in detail in "Officers, Dismissed!" pretty much as it happened. In New York Harbor as we were waiting for our ship to weigh anchor I "copied" a flashing light signal from the harbor master's tower designating our departure time. No one in my circle could copy the code, so I informed them when we would depart but did not reveal how I knew. When we did depart precisely as I had "predicted" I was pressured to reveal my source and mistakenly did so. During the rest of the voyage I was constantly harassed to read the signals from and to passing ships. I also visited the radio room, got friendly with the radioman in charge and copied a lot of "fox." It was an interesting voyage, but I don't remember meeting any brother hams, although there must have been many aboard.

"I also visited the radio room, got friendly with the radioman in charge and copied a lot of 'fox.' It was an interesting voyage, but I don't remember meeting any brother hams,"

I am going to skip over most of the rest of my wartime ham radio experiences, which are adequately recorded in fictionalized form in "Officers, Dismissed!" The adventures of Howard Snite in that book are quite close to what actually took place, no use going over it again, except for a quick rundown. In Wiesbaden I found the usual high percentage of hams in AACs, especially among the officers, and I became acquainted with several of them, especially Major Joe Beler and Capt. Don Mulcahy, who assisted me (and themselves too) in procuring transmitting and receiving equipment for our ham stations - by "moonlight req-

uisition.," but Capt. Mulcahy also assisted me in setting up a station in my billet and putting up my antennas, enabling me to operate my own station (D4ALS) during part of my stay in Europe. I was licensed by the U.S. Army Signal Corps, as were Beler (D4ABE) and Mulcahy (D4ABI). There was also a Lt Pohler who had a station in the same billet with me but he operated exclusively by voice and not very often, I was super-active during July and August until I was put on orders to return to the states for discharge. My time in Wiesbaden was five months, but it seemed a great deal longer than that.

To Be Continued...

In the next installment, George returns to the League.

There's a New Reflector in Town!

At the Board of Directors meeting in Ottawa it was decided to start a new QCWA Reflector for the exclusive use of the Local Chapter Presidents and/or Secretaries, the General Manager and members of the Chapter Relations Committee.

This is a closed reflector; non-members can't just subscribe. This purpose of this reflector is to facilitate communications between HQ and the local chapters. Local chapter officers can exchange ideas and comments also.

Thus far, I've added all the e-mails I have for the above QCWA members. If your Chapter President or Secretary doesn't have access to e-mail, please select someone to represent your chapter on this reflector. If you are a President or Secretary of a local chapter and aren't on this reflector, or will represent them, send me e-mail stating which chapter you represent to nOuf@kc.rr.com.

73, Bob Roske, NOUF, QCWA Admin Reflector Administrator

Silent Keys Silent Keys Silent Keys Silent Keys

With great sadness we record the passing of these members

NAME	CALL	MEM. #	L	SK	CITY	ST/PR
BURGHARDT, STAN	W0IT	14766		2004	WATERTOWN	SD
KNICELY, LAYMON J	W8CCR	08382		2004	KINGSPORT	TN
PRISTASH, JOHN	WR8G	21946	*	2004	OLMSTED TWP	OH
RIEVELEY, BILL	VA3AWJ	12680	*	2004	BROCKVILLE	ON
SEID, CLARENCE	W2KW	00031	*	2004	MIDDLETOWN	NY
WALSH, JAMES C	W7LVN	12281	*	2004	EUGENE	OR
WELLER, KENNETH H	W8TZQ	24898		2004	LEBANON	OH
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Above photos taken by Ralph Cameron and Chuck Walbridge.



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